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MACROECONOMIC SHOCKS

'1.6 crore informal jobs were lost since 2016'

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Centre holds review of NEP 2020 with States

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An exercise that drives growth with stability

The government's policy priorities will be known

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Gambhir appointed Indian team coach

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NEARBY

Gig Workers' Bill: Unions seek tweaks

BENGALURU

Suggesting changes to the proposed Gig Workers Bill, likely to be introduced in the ensuing legislature session, trade unions in Karnataka have sought equal representation on the Gig Workers Welfare Board "in the true spirit and letter of tripartism". » PAGE 6

CISCE directive on Kannada

BENGALURU

Asking its member schools to abide by the language teaching policies of the States where they are located, the CISCE directed its member schools to teach Kannada as the first or second language in Karnataka.

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Putin accepts Modi's request to release Indian military recruits

The Russian President has given instructions to discharge the Indian soldiers serving at the Ukraine war front after the PM's 'direct intervention'; release of recruits to take place within weeks from various places where they are serving or deployed

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

In what will be a relief for the families of men recruited into the Russian military to serve at the war front with Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin has accepted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's request, made at a private dinner on Monday, to discharge those wishing to return to India.

According to sources privy to the decision, Mr. Putin has given instructions to this effect upon Mr. Modi's "direct intervention". "We expect the release to take place within weeks from various places where they are serving or deployed," sources told *The Hindu* on the condition of anonymity.

The decision, which was not announced formally by the Russian government after the Modi-Putin talks on Tuesday, comes after weeks of diplomatic discussions, and the issue being raised by the Indian Embassy in Moscow as well as by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov during a meeting on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Astana last week.

"The Prime Minister raised this issue strongly in his talks with President Putin on Monday and Tuesday," Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said. Asked specifically if Indians who chose to remain would be allowed to do so, he said that Mr. Modi made it clear that he wanted "all" Indian military recruits to return.

The demand for the discharge of the soldiers who claim they were recruited after being lured by agents on false promises has been increasing pressure on the government for several months.

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Cementing ties: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow on Tuesday. REUTERS

Bilateral trade target for 2030 set at $100 billion

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to $100 billion by 2030, including the use of national currencies to circumvent western sanctions as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin sat down for the 22nd Annual Summit here on Tuesday to discuss "primarily economic" issues.

FULL REPORT
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Kathua anti-militancy operations stepped up; attackers elusive

Increased vigil: Indian Army personnel during a counter-terror operation following the terrorist attack in Kathua, on Tuesday. PTI

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

An extensive anti-militancy operation of the security forces, backed by unmanned aerial vehicles and choppers, on Tuesday failed to re-establish contact with the hiding militants who attacked an Army convoy on Monday, leaving five soldiers dead.

Meanwhile, another group of militants was spotted in the higher reaches of Jammu's Doda.

The Army's 9 Corps, which comes under the Western Command, was joined by the Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Operations Group in Kathua's Badnota village to track down the attackers.

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CM: Cabinet will decide on renaming Ramanagara district

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said the State Cabinet will take a decision on renaming Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South.

A delegation led by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar earlier submitted a proposal to him to rename the district. A decision on the matter would be taken at a Cabinet meeting, the Chief Minister told reporters, without specifying any time frame.

Mr. Shivakumar, who first mooted the proposal in October 2023, is apparently keen on expediting the process of renaming, believing it would help the party in the coming by-elections to the Channapatna Legislative Assembly constituency, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Ramanagara district.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Shivakumar, who is also KPCC president and in-charge Minister for Ramanagara, presented the proposal to Mr. Siddaramaiah "taking into account the development and future growth of Ramanagara."

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Godman not named in U.P. SIT's report on stampede in Hathras

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The local administration allowed the *satsang* in Hathras without inspecting the venue and police officers concerned took the event lightly and never informed their seniors about it, said the report of a two-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted to probe the stampede that left dead 121 people, 113 of them women.

The team, comprising Additional Director-General of Police (Agra zone) Anupam Kulshreshtha and Divisional Commissioner (Aligarh) Chaitra V., submitted the around 1,000-page report that does not mention the self-styled godman, Narayan Sakar Hari, alias Bhole Baba, as an accused or responsible for the tragedy.

Acting on the SIT report, the Uttar Pradesh government promptly suspended six officials – the sub-divisional magistrate, station officer, circle officer, tehsildar, and two other officials of Sikandrarao.

The team recorded the statements of 125 individuals, including officials from the administration and the police, the general public, and eyewitnesses.

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Patanjali tells SC it instructed stores to remove 14 unlicensed 'medicines'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday recorded Patanjali Ayurved's submission that it has instructed its exclusive and franchise stores to remove its 14 "herbal medicines" whose licences were suspended, from their shelves.

The company co-founded by self-styled yoga guru Baba Ramdev, who is facing contempt proceedings for endorsing misleading advertisements in violation of the orders of the top court, said requests were also made to social media intermediaries and e-commerce platforms to pull out advertisements on these products.

Damage control: The firm said media outlets were asked to stop broadcasting advertisements about the 14 concoctions. REUTERS

Patanjali said media outlets associated with it or those specially engaged by the company were asked to stop broadcasting advertisements about the 14 concoctions in any form.

However, a Bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Sandeep Mehta directed Patanjali to file an affidavit in two weeks, stating whether or not the social media intermediaries have withdrawn the advertisements on Patanjali's request.

Meanwhile, the court clarified that its May 7 order, directing advertisers to submit self-declarations that they are not misrepresenting or making false claims about products, especially in the health and food sectors, before promoting them in the electronic, print, or online media was not meant to harass the advertising industry.

Groups such as the Advertising Association of India and the Internet and Mobile Association of India have applied to intervene in the top court seeking further clarification of the May 7 order.

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Dravid — a legend's eventful journey from setbacks to grand success

The former India captain, who ran a fabulous ship as the head coach, found a great ally, a kindred spirit, in Rohit Sharma, who succeeded Virat Kohli as cross-format captain in March 2021

R. Kaushik

It was in the fitness of things that the region that thrust upon Rahul Dravid his worst outing as skipper, if not as player, would confer on him his greatest accomplishment post-retirement.

It was in the Caribbean, in 2007, that Dravid oversaw one of the lowest points in modern Indian cricket history. Coming into the 50-over World Cup as among the overwhelming title favourites on the back of both their quality and their experience, India crashed out in the first round itself following defeats to Bangladesh and then Sri Lanka.

Dravid was one of several shining stars of Indian cricket that watched shell-shocked when India's exit from the tournament was officially confirmed after they went down by 69 runs to the Sri Lankans at Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain on March 22.

As captain, Dravid was affected more than the likes of Sachin Tendulkar and Sourav Ganguly, Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh. So much so that six months later, after becoming the first Indian skipper since Kapil Dev in 1986 to lead his team to a Test series win in England, Dravid gave up the captaincy, preferring to see out the next four and a half years of his glittering career at the international level under Kumble and then Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Successful leader

Dravid was one of India's more successful leaders; before the series win in England, he had steered the team to its first Test series triumph since 1971 in the West Indies in 2006, the same year that he skippered the side to its maiden Test victory on South African soil. It was under him that, at head coach Greg Chappell's urgings, India benched a virtuoso like V.V.S. Laxman as it trialled the five-bowler formula for the first time.

Once acknowledged as notoriously poor chasers in 50-over cricket, India also stacked up a still-to-broken record 17 consecutive victories batting second in One-Day Internationals. Dravid's captaincy era ought to have been celebrated and eulogised; instead, it came to be defined by two losses in three games which culminated in an abortive World Cup campaign.

At the time, 17 years back, few would have foreseen the turn of events that'd help Dravid purge the memories of those harrowing days in the Caribbean. Until two-and-a-half years back, despite having coached the India 'A' and Under-19 sides for four years since 2015, no one was sure if Dravid would assume charge as the head coach of the national side.

The uncertainty grew when he took over as the boss of the National Cricket Academy in 2019, but he was eventually convinced by the decision-makers that Indian cricket would be best served if Dravid succeeded Ravi Shastri as the head coach once the latter's tenure ended after India's miserable T20 World Cup campaign in the UAE in November 2021.

His two-year term was originally to terminate with the end of India's march at the 50-over home World Cup last November. Dravid's tasks were manifold – to oversee a period of transition in Test cricket, especially from the batting side of things, without compromising the team's chances of making it to the final of the World Test Championship in 2023. To ignite India's run at the 50-over World Cup.

To change the timid, archaic, obsolete approach to the T20 game following a disappointing semifinal exit at the World Cup in Australia in 2022. To build on the gains accrued during his stints as coach of the 'A' and Under-19 teams, to leave Indian cricket with greater strength in depth than when he had taken over.

Demanding task

All of this combined to make it a demanding, if not impossible task, in a country where success is measured only by results. As coach at the not-national team levels, Dravid could talk about building a strong assembly line. He could deflect pressure by pointing out, rightly, that no one remembered an Under-19 World Cup winner unless he went on to represent the senior team with distinction, that 'A' tour results mattered far less than the exposure gained by playing overseas, in unfamiliar conditions. With the senior Indian team, there was no safety net.

To no one's surprise, Dravid ran a fabulous ship as the head coach. He found a great ally, a kindred spirit, in Rohit Sharma, who succeeded Virat Kohli as cross-format captain in March 2021. It was under Dravid that Rohit had made his international debut, in Ireland in the middle of 2007.

It was also with Dravid by his side that Rohit embarked on the journey to introduce modern methods of approaching the game to the Indian public, leading from the front and taking the bull by the horns to ensure that he himself was the prime exponent of the aggressive, eye-catching brand of cricket that Indian cricket wanted to drape itself in.

The Rohit-Dravid alliance was a match made in heaven, the coming together of like-minded individuals who trusted each other implicitly and who had great mutual respect. Despite the apparently obvious outward dissimilarities – Dravid at his peak was as intense as they come and by his admission took himself too seriously, while Rohit has been a lot more laidback – they were peas from the same pod, with the same steely inner determination and a benign exterior that masked the innate aggression that didn't need to be portrayed through questionable behaviour or a slew of expletives.

Both are meticulous in preparation with a pronounced faith in data and its analysis. Both speak the same language - of inclusivity, of role-clarity, of job security, of backing personnel even if they failed in trying to follow team goals.

They seemed to be on to a great thing when India burnt their way through the draw at the 50-over World Cup, entertaining and intimidating during their unchallenged march to the title round. It seemed as if it was written in the stars, that India's first global title since 2013 would come on home soil, until Australia provided a rude awakening in Ahmedabad.

It was a loss that left the captain and the head coach shattered more than most others; as Rohit struggled to hold back tears in the dressing-room, Dravid manfully fronted the media after the heart-wrenching loss, like he had every time he had been India captain.

Ultimate World Cup success appeared to have permanently eluded Dravid until Laxman shunned the head coach job and a phone call from Rohit convinced the older man that it was in everyone's interests for him to continue in that role for a few more months - until the T20 World Cup in the Americas last month.

It would be Dravid's last fling, his final hurrah. He had come desperately close to coaching India to two titles in 2023, only for his wards to falter at the final hurdle in the WTC and the World Cup. Would he get third time lucky?

Once Dravid agreed to Rohit's request to stay on as head coach, the process to hand-pick individuals with a clear onus on specific goals continued in right earnest. It helped that India could include four all-rounders in their party of 15, with vice-captain Hardik Pandya allowing them the luxury of playing an extra batter, an extra seamer or an extra spinner, depending on.

India selected four specialist spinners, decided to use Kohli as Rohit's partner and were determined to stick to their mantra of aggression in batting, no matter if occasionally, that ploy attracted a slew of wickets.

Rohit didn't entirely leave the planning to Dravid and his support staff, but he could focus on his batting without having to second-guess if he and his coach were on the same wavelength. One comprehensive victory after another solidified the conviction that India were on to a good thing. It speaks to constancy in selection and consistency in messaging that India used just 12 players during their eight matches at the World Cup. Having allowed players to grow into their roles, Dravid and Rohit encouraged them to flourish in their roles, to express themselves, to have the courage and the confidence to stick to their guns even in the face of adversity.

That's how India rallied from 34 for three in the final against South Africa to post 176, that's how they were able to bounce back with the Proteas needing 30 off 30 balls, six wickets standing, to pull off an incredible seven-run heist. That's how they could eke out performances from numerous individuals, not least the captain himself and his principal lynchpin, Jasprit Bumrah. That's how Rohit and Dravid were to fall into one long, emotional embrace after the dust had settled, after the trophy had been lost and won.

Contrary to popular perception, Dravid isn't averse to public shows of emotion. Who can forget his angry thrust of the bat towards the Eden Gardens press box after his century against Australia in 2001, or his public show of delight upon fashioning India's victory over the same opponents in Adelaide two and a half years later? And, the dramatic fling of his cap once Aditya Tare consigned Rajasthan Royals to a bitter loss that scuttled their playoff aspirations in 2014?

But his uninhibited celebration of the World Cup triumph, both in the immediacy of that feat in Bridgetown on June 29 and subsequently during the open-bus parade in Mumbai last week, were spectacles in themselves. The monkey off the back, the Wall's stoicism crumbled, the dam was breached.

As Dravid soaked in the adulation, you couldn't help but feel that few deserved their moment under the sun more than the former captain, now the former head coach. They don't make 'em like Rahul Dravid anymore, do they?

THE GIST

- Dravid steered India to its first Test series triumph since 1971 in the West Indies in 2006 and in the same year he skippered the side to its maiden Test victory on South African soil. He also led India to glory in England in 2007
- Dravid at his peak was as intense as they come and by his admission took himself too seriously
- The Rohit-Dravid alliance was a match made in heaven, the coming together of like-minded individuals who trusted each other implicitly and who had great mutual respect

Chief Minister-led GBA to be key to city governance

Its main functions will be planning, integration, coordination, and finances at the city level and it will bring in equity among multiple municipal corporations through State and Union govt. grants

GREATER BENGALURU GOVERNANCE BILL, 2024

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, a draft of which was submitted by the Brand Bengaluru Committee to the State government on Monday, proposes to create a new body called the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) at the city level as the apex layer of a three-tier governance structure. Multiple municipal corporations and ward committees will form the second and third tier in this model.

The main functions of the GBA will be planning, integration, coordination, and finances at the city level. It will bring in equity among multiple municipal corporations through State and Union government grants.

"Given there will be multiple corporations, the GBA has a very crucial role to integrate at the city level," said a source in the know.

The GBA, chaired by the Chief Minister and co-chaired by the Bengaluru Development Minister, will have a footprint of around 1,400 sq. km, mostly congruous with the Bengaluru Metropolitan Area.

The GBA will take over the planning function of the BDA and work under the aegis of the Bengaluru Metropolitan Planning Committee (BMPC), which is now proposed to have a footprint of the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region which includes Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, and Ramanagara districts.

The GBA, chaired by the Chief Minister and co-chaired by the Bengaluru Development Minister, will have a footprint of around 1,400 sq. km, mostly congruous with the Bengaluru Metropolitan Area. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

The GBA will, for the first time, bring all parastatals on one platform, which is key to the city's governance.

Unlike many other cities, most civic functions like transport, electricity, water, and sewage, apart from planning, are under the State government-run parastatals in the city and several ad-hoc arrangements of forming a co-ordination committee have failed to streamline governance in the city.

"All projects and departments, cutting across the boundaries of multiple corporations like major roads and storm-water drains, will be under the purview of the GBA. Even large projects will have to be ratified by the GBA. While the GBA will not tender out works, it allots these projects to various city-level parastatals like the BDA and the BWSSB. The BDA will likely become the implementing agency of infrastructure projects in the city," a senior official said.

The heads of the nine parastatals, including the BDA, the BWSSB, the BMLTA, the BSWML, the city police, and others, will be members of the GBA with voting rights.

The GBA will also have Ministers for Energy, Transport, Home, and Urban Development as members, but with no voting rights.

The modular draft Bill provides for one to 10 municipal corporations to be formed in the city. All the mayors and a representative from each zone of these corporations, the zilla panchayat president and representatives of the panchayat outside the municipal area of the GBA, will be members of the GBA and have voting rights.

A total of 32 elected representatives [28 MLAs and four MPs] from Bengaluru will also be members of the GBA, but will not have voting rights. The GBA will also have domain experts like urban planners, transport planners, public policy experts, economists, and environmentalists as members.

Executive committee

The draft Bill provides for an executive committee chaired by the Bengaluru Development Minister with chiefs of all parastatals, and a Metropolitan Commissioner of the rank of Additional Chief Secretary, for the day-to-day functioning of the GBA. While the GBA is stipulated to meet every two months, the committee will meet every month.+

(This is part of a series on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024.)

From Page One

Cabinet will decide on renaming Ramanagara district, says CM

Justifying the renaming, Mr. Shivakumar said, "The people of Doddaballapur, Devanahalli, Hoskote, Kanakapura, Ramanagara, Channapatna, Magadi are all Bangaloreans originally."

Carved out in 2007

Ramanagara district was carved out of the Bengaluru Rural district in August 2007 during the JD(S)-BJP coalition government led by H.D. Kumaraswamy for administrative reasons. Mr. Kumaraswamy and his wife, Anita Kumaraswamy, have represented the Ramanagara Assembly constituency in the past.

"We have submitted the proposal. Renaming will help bring industries to the district and the land valuation will go up as well. Bengaluru has scope to grow only towards Ramanagara and Tumakuru as it has Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh on the other sides," Mr. Shivakumar told reporters.

Asked which taluks would come under Bengaluru South district, he said it was only a renaming exercise and there would not be any change in the geographical boundary of the district.

Channapatna, Kanakapura, Ramanagara, Harohalli, and Magadi taluks fall in Ramanagara district.

In the past, the KPCC chief justified the demand for renaming the district on the grounds that it would help in increasing real estate value. He even advised voters in the Kanakapura segment not to sell land properties as renaming would raise land prices in the future.

In October 2014, the Union government cleared the State government's proposal to rename 12 cities, including Bengaluru, in Karnataka.

Drunk driving: 23 school bus drivers caught

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Traffic Police conducted a special drive checking vehicles ferrying schoolchildren in the city on Tuesday, and caught 23 persons driving drunk.

The drive was conducted against school vehicle drivers who were driving under the influence of alcohol from 07 am to 09:30 am, M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner (Traffic), said. A total of 3,016 school vehicles were checked.

As many as 23 drivers tested positive during the alcometer test and they were booked under Section 185 of The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

CISCE asks member schools in Karnataka to teach Kannada as first or second language

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Asking its member schools to abide by the language teaching policies of the States where they are located, the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) on Tuesday directed its member schools to teach Kannada as the first or second language in Karnataka.

In the Karnataka Education Institutions (Issue of No Objection Certificate and Control) Rules which were notified under the Kannada Language Learning Act, 2015, the State government has made it mandatory for ICSE and CBSE schools to teach Kannada as the first or second language.

Even as many schools were opposed to this rule, Joseph Emmanuel, CISCE chief executive and secretary, and G. Immanuel, CISCE chairman, said that schools will have to follow the teaching policies of the State, during a meeting of principals of CISCE schools on Tuesday.

"If the Karnataka government has mandated that all schools should teach Kannada as the first or second language, then the same must be followed by CISCE schools," they said.

The officials also spoke about assessing the performance of CISCE schools on six parameters, along the lines of Education World Rankings. While teaching and learning will make up for 40% of the assessment, infrastructure and other issues will be assessed for the remaining 60%.

"These assessments would be a benchmark for healthy competition among schools. Along with board inspections, schools can also ask for a revised peer assessment (from other schools) to understand their performance. They can also request the board for a re-assessment," Mr. Emmanuel said.

Unauthorised schools

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Associated Management of Schools (KAMsS) also gave a letter to Mr. Immanuel about the proliferation of unauthorised schools in the State without affiliation to any board, "which is creating several challenges for legitimate ICSE-affiliated schools."

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated July 10, we have an interview with Kuldeep Kumar Jain, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru. He speaks about the increasing cybercrime cases in the city, how criminals have found their ways in this digital age, and what protective measures one can take.

EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

Aditya Group Of Institutions (AGI) held inauguration ceremony of its highly anticipated Adiyta Habba and Founder's Day

The event marked by an array of vibrant performances, inspiring speeches and an enthusiastic turnout of Students, Principals, Head Of the Departments, Faculty Members, Non- Teaching Staffs and distinguished guests. The inauguration began with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the ushering in of knowledge and wisdom. CM of AGI, Dr. B A Vishwanath, VC Dr. Priya Vishwanath and Smt Surya Kumari inaugurated the grant event. Cine Actress Ms. Radhika Narayan graced the occasion as the chief guest. In her opening address, Ms. Radhika Narayan emphasized the importance commitment every student should have towards the society and the importance of acquiring higher education. The ceremony featured captivating performance by the college students, displaying the diverse talents of the students. Mesmerizing energetic performance by Sa Re Ga Ma Pa fame Ms. Samanvi Rai took the audience swaying to the beats. The evening progressed with series of engaging events, including fashion shows, dance performances and lot many other performances by students of Aditya College Of Engineering & Technology, Aditya Bangalore Institute Of Pharmacy Education & Research, Aditya College Of Nursing, Aditya College Of Physiotherapy, Aditya College Of Allied Health Sciences, Aditya Academy Of Architecture & Design, Aditya P U College and Aditya National Public School. As the night drew, the campus buzzed with excitement and anticipation for the days ahead, setting the stage for a memorable and enriching festival experience.

AMC College Convocation Programme - Graduation to 800 students

There are ample opportunities for students in science and technology and innovation and they should utilize this and become entrepreneurs, said former ISRO chairman K. Sivan. Speaking at the convocation ceremony organized by AMC College on Bannerghatta Road on Saturday, he said that today science and technology is progressing at a fast pace. Astronautics is being conducted by ISRO, which will take astronauts to an altitude of 400 km. He asked the students to engage in innovation and work for the nation. Let the youth choose their own field of work. Once you get involved, focus on working hard. Think to find innovative designs and crazy ideas. Don't ignore this, K. Sivan said. ISRO Chair Professor Dr. P. G. Diwakar said that there are more opportunities because innovation, MSME and incubation centers are doing the same work that ISRO is currently doing. So not everyone wants to join ISRO after graduation. He said that you can get a job in companies like ISRO. In the convocation, degrees were awarded to 800 students including undergraduates and postgraduates. AMC College President Dr. KR Paramansa, Vice President K. Geeta Paramansa, Executive Vice President Rahul Kalluri, Academic Advisor Dr. R. Nagaraj, Principal Dr. K. Kumar and others were present.

Presentation of DefactoED Award to Paramapujya Sri Sri Dr. Prakashnath Swamiji, the Managing Director of BGS and SJB Group of Institutions and Hospitals

UK based Defacto Learning Solutions Ltd. Awarded to the Managing Director of BGS and SJB Group of Institutions and Hospitals, Sri Sri Dr. Prakashanath Swamiji has been honored with the 'DefactoED Innovation Education Award' in recognition of his contribution to the field of education. Swamiji was felicitated with the award by Timothy, Director of DeFacto Learning Solutions Ltd. at an event held in London. Defacto Learning Solution Ltd is a US government accredited learning company. It has been working to recognize and honor those who have achieved in the field of education.

REVA University – inaugurated Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Hub inagurated in Chikkaballapur

REVA Research Centre, the sponsored-project funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, inaugurated the Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Hub in Chikkaballapur. The STI Hub aims to address the challenges of farmers through several key interventions. REVA University supports the initiative internally by sponsoring the required facilities. It also aims to support the farmer community through technology, research, and innovation. The STI Hub focuses on the development of economically weaker sections in Bangalore North, Bangalore Rural District, and selected villages of Chikkaballapura in Karnataka. The STI Hub is expected to deliver significant project outcomes, including raising awareness, providing training, and offering product development and testing facilities to the farmers and local community. Vice Chancellor (I/C) Dr Ramesh N inaugurated the STI-HUB. The top management including the registrar, Pro Vice Chancellor (Engg), Deans and Directors attended the event and appreciated the project investigators Dr. Raje Siddiraju Upendra, Dr. Karthik Rajendra, Dr P. Visweswara Rao, Dr. Ritesh Dash, Dr. K Jyotheeswara Reddy, Prof. P R Savitha, and Dr. Dasharath S M, of REVA University.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Sri.Malagi Anand Kumar S/o Guru Acharya** to bring the notice of the general public that, Original registered absolute sale deed bearing doc No.5832/1997-98 of Book-1, Date.20.11.1997, executed by **Sri. B.R.Yathiraj S/o Sri.Balchalli Range Gowda** in favour of **Dr.Mrs.V.Kamala W/o M.Varadarajan,** registered in the office of the sub-registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore. And Original General Power of Attorney dated.09.10.2004 executed by **Sri.Malagi Anand Kumar** in favour of **Sri.B.Narasimha Chary.** Both documents are missing / lost/ misplaced in respect of schedule property.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document or schedule property, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing site **No.33,** "D" Block, Municipal Assessment No.851/33, situated at **ATTUR LAYOUT, Yelahanka, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** presently comes under the Limits of BBMP, Bangalore, measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring **2400 Sq.ft.,** and bounded on : **East by : Road, West by : Property No.46, North by : Property No.32, South by : Property No.34**

H. Prahlada B.A.,L.L.B
Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Mrs.Shreeja.R W/o Sri.Chandra Das.C** to bring the notice of the general public that, Following original documents are missing / lost/ misplaced in respect of schedule property as : 1.Rregistered absolute sale deed bearing doc No.8179/2001-02 of Book-1, Volum-ADR-1407, Page No.148-168, registered Dated. 02.02.2002, & 2.Registeerd Mortgage deed bearing doc No.9602/2001-02 of Book-1, Volume-ADR-1416, Pages 74 to 86, 3.Registered Deed of Reconveyance bearing doc No.YAN-1-03967/2013-14 of Book-1, Stored in CD No.YAND495, registered Dated.09.07.2013. All documents are registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document or schedule property, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing CMC Katha No. 2215, 2231, 2232, 2237, 2238, 2214, 2216, 2230, 2233, 2235, 2222, 2239, 2224, 2223, 2225, 2234, 2226 & 2227 and situated at **Allalasandra Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring 1,56,925 Sq.ft., and bounded on the : **East by : Property belonging to A.Hameed & others, West by : Sy.No.2, North by : Road, South by : Sy.No.10 & 7.**

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

1. All the proportionate undivided share of land admeasuring 201.95 Sq.ft or 18.79 Sq.Mtrs out of land admeasuring 64435.0 Sq.ft or 5995.00 Sq.mtrs of above said Schedule A Property conveyed by Block Nos.V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII.

2. Apartment bearing **No.1093** in the Ground Floor of X Block, Constructed on the Schedule-A property, measuring super-built area of 700 Sq.ft, constructed in R.C.C roofing, mosaic flooring, Honnewood doors & steel windows thereon and bounded on : **East by : Flat No.1094, West by : Open to Sky : North by : Passage to staircase, South by : Open to Sky.**

H. Prahlada B.A.,L.L.B
Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

Notice Inviting E-Tender

Mukhyamantri Laghu Evam Kutir Udyam Vikas Board
(A Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
4th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ratu Road, Ranchi- 834001
Contact-9262219999, 9102467777, e-mail: contact.cmlaghukutir@gmail.com, website: mmlkuvb.jharkhand.gov.in

Ref. No: 508 **Date: 08.07.2024**

E- Tender on rate contract basis for supply of toolkit, machines/ equipment in 15 handicraft trades across Jharkhand

Scope of Work: MMLKUVB, an undertaking of Jharkhand Govt. is engaged in imparting trainings in handicraft sector across Jharkhand. About 75 batches comprising of 20 artisans in each batch across 15 handicraft trades are to be imparted training for sustainable development. All artisans that will be trained will receive tool kit/ machines/ equipment's at training sites across 24 districts of Jharkhand.
The handicraft trades for which toolkits/ machines/ equipment to be procured on rate contract basis by MMLKUVB are (1) Jute Craft (2) Lac Bangles (3) Leather/Footwear (4) Cane and Bamboo (5) Wood Craft (6) Bell Metal/ Dokra (7) Sal Leaf Plate and Bowl Manufacturing (8) Paper Bag manufacturing (9) Painting (10) Doll and Toys (11) Embroidered and Crocheted goods (12) Wall Hangings (13) Musical Instruments of Jharkhand (14) Rugs and Durries (15) Framing

Tender Fee	₹ 5,900.00 (inclusive of 18% GST) (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred only) payable to MUKHYAMANTRI LAGHU EVAM KUTIR UDYAM VIKAS BOARD, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India
EMD (Earnest Money Deposit):	₹ 2, **30, 000.00** (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Thousand only) payable to MUKHYAMANTRI LAGHU EVAM KUTIR UDYAM VIKAS BOARD, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India.

Time Schedule:

Sl.No.	Particulars	Date & Time
1	Date of publication of Bid on Website	10.07.2024
2	Bid Document download start date	10.07.2024
3	Pre-bid meeting	15.07.2024 at 11:30 am Online meeting link: **https//meet.google.com/ dax-deux-qpd**
3	Bid submission start date	20.07.2024, 02:00 pm onwards
4	Last date of submission of Technical & Financial Bid	30.07.2024 by 05:00 pm
5	Opening of Technical Bid	01.08.2024 at 11:30 am

Detailed tender document may be downloaded from the website: mmlkuvb.jharkhand.gov.in/ www.jharkhand tenders.gov.in
Mukhyamantri Laghu Evam Kutir Udyam Vikas Board reserves the right to cancel or/and postpone the tender or reject any bid without assigning any reason at any point of time or stage of the tender.

Sd/-
Chief Executive officer

PR 329017 Mukhyamantri Laghu And Kutir Udyam Vikas Board(24-25).D

‘Outstanding work’: IIT-M team makes mineral nanoparticles with water

In an important finding independent scientists called a ‘striking and non-intuitive result’, researchers used really small water droplets to blow up minerals suspended in them into nanoparticles. The underlying science has implications for many things from the origin of life to replenishing soils for farming

Karthik Vinod

Water drops are ubiquitous around us and come in different sizes. They can be as large as a raindrop or as small as aerosol particles released from a spray can.

They can be even smaller – invisible to the naked eye – when they come as microdroplets. The latter are just a thousandth the size of a typical raindrop.

“We think that droplets are very tiny, and they are not important enough,” Thalappil Pradeep, a chemist at IIT Madras, told *The Hindu*.

But they can pack a punch.

Dr. Pradeep led a study recently published in the journal *Science* that showed microdroplets of water can break minerals down into nanoparticles. The team involved researchers from IIT Madras and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Studies, Bengaluru.

“This outstanding work adds significantly to the growing body of evidence that water droplets enable chemical transformations that bulk water does not make possible,” Richard Zare, a chemist at Stanford University who wasn’t involved in the study, told *The Hindu*.

B.K. Spoorthi, who just completed her PhD at IIT Madras, observing an experiment in progress. IIT MADRAS

Eccentricity of water microdroplets

In a bucket of water, water molecules at the surface can participate more easily in chemical reactions than those in the bulk. But even at the surface, they’ll need to be supplied with some energy before they can participate. The water molecules of microdroplets do one better: because they have so little room and are packed closely together, they’re more eager to participate in chemical reactions.

The water in microdroplets thus engages more readily in exotic chemical reactions that also proceed faster, up to a million-times in some cases. This isn’t possible with water molecules in bulk.

For the same reason, microdroplets are also good carriers of electric charge. Dr. Pradeep said they’re easy to encounter in this form. Go to the beach, and close to the shore, microdroplets from the spray of water could carry an excess of ions from the salt in the water and settle on your skin, he said.

A microdroplet can also become electrically charged in other ways. For example, when a larger droplet loses some water by evaporation and shrinks, the water molecules left behind are pushed closer together, and establish (weak) hydrogen bonds between themselves. This often results in a water molecule shedding one of its hydrogen atoms and becomes a negatively charged hydroxyl ion (OH^-). The freed H^+ is essentially a proton.

This process happens in bulk water as well – but because each molecule is surrounded by other water molecules, the protons can’t move around much. In microdroplets, the protons easily reach the surface, rendering the surface more acidic and creating fertile ground for chemical reactions.

Researchers have shown that amino acids use free protons on their surfaces as an intermediary to form peptide linkages.

The new study reported microdroplets have yet another ability.

An explosive experiment

Dr. Pradeep & co. were interested in whether water microdroplets could break bonds in crystals like silica (SiO_2) and alumina (Al_2O_3) to create nanometre-sized pieces.

Spoorthi Bhat, then a PhD student under Dr. Pradeep and one of the paper’s coauthors, set up an experiment to confirm this hypothesis in crystals of quartz (silica), ruby, and fused alumina.

She pressed a battery terminal against the outside of a capillary tube. The terminal delivered a few thousand volts to mineral microparticles suspended in water inside the tube. The voltage elongated the suspension, squeezing it out of one end, and sending it flying through the air as a mist of microdroplets. They were still airborne when, in just 10 milliseconds, the mineral microparticles broke up into nanoparticles.

> Water drops can be invisible to the naked eye when they come as microdroplets. The latter are just a thousandth the size of a typical raindrop

The researchers had a few ideas about what could have caused this break up. The free protons could have squeezed themselves into crystal layers, which they scraped the mineral off from within if supplied some energy. The study suggests the electric fields produced by the charged surface could have provided this energy.

Surface tension – the force that keeps droplets spherical – could have been involved as well. In the experiment, a contest between surface tension, which is attractive, and like charges on the surface repelling each other could have set off shockwaves that blew up the microdroplets.

“This is a striking and non-intuitive result,” Shashi Thutupalli, a biophysicist at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, who was not involved in the study, said to *The Hindu*. “It seems quite plausible that the high electric field within the droplets could cause the particle breakup.”

He added that the findings could be useful to the study of proto-cells, the precursors to cells as we know them today. Scientists are interested in proto-cells because they could have played an important part in the processes that first created life on the earth. “For me personally, the relevance of these results to the context of the origins of life is very exciting.”

He said the microdroplets could mimic proto-cells by being little compartments in which biochemical reactions play out.

Making a green paradise

The formation of nanoparticles from microparticles, Dr. Pradeep said, is “related to the origin of life, the problem of agriculture, ... to issues as large as water itself. Another problem as big as water is food. It is in this context that soil is probably an interesting thing.”

Silica makes up half of sand. Plants absorb silica in the form of nanoparticles to help them become taller. The rice crop usually has high levels of silica.

Supplying soil with silica nanoparticles could thus have a positive impact on agriculture. “Here is a way to convert unproductive soil, unproductive fields or even desertified areas into productive areas,” Dr. Pradeep said.

He implored scientists to investigate whether water microdroplets react with minerals to form nanoparticles as part of atmospheric processes, in the form of ‘microdroplet showers’. Dr. Pradeep was optimistic they do.

(Karthik Vinod is a freelance science journalist and co-founder of Ed Publica. He has masters’ degrees in astrophysics and science, technology and society.)

THE GIST

- Water molecules of microdroplets since they have so little room and are packed closely together are more eager to participate in chemical reactions. This isn’t possible with water molecules in bulk
- The ability to create nanoparticles could be useful to the study of proto-cells, the precursors to cells as we know them today. Microdroplets could mimic proto-cells by by being little compartments in which biochemical reactions play out
- Plants absorb silica in the form of nanoparticles to help them become taller. Supplying soil with silica nanoparticles could have a positive impact on agriculture. This research provides ‘a way to convert unproductive soil, unproductive fields or even desertified areas into productive areas’

BIG SHOT

Passersby take a break under a cooling mist in Tokyo on Tuesday. The Japanese government warned on Tuesday against the risk of heatstroke in the national capital and areas in its east and west. Hot and humid conditions behind several recent deaths are driving some people to use new “cooling shelters” set up around the city. REUTERS

QUESTION CORNER

Rain inside the house

Q: After I take a hot shower and the hot, wet air from the bathroom combines with the cold air from the hall, why doesn’t it rain in my house?

A: It probably does. Your house may not be big enough to contain an air mass capable of producing a long shower of rain, but depending on the size, temperature, and relative humidities of areas in your house and the amount of wet air, you are probably getting at least a trace of rain-like precipitation.

Look closely at your bathroom walls after your shower; often there will be beads of water on them that did not result from direct contact with the shower stream. This is most noticeable on your ‘foggy’ mirror. A raindrop or two may even fall on your head from the ceiling.

Like rain outside, this precipitation results from condensation of water vapour, where the warmer air meets a mass of colder air (a cold front) or, more commonly, when warm damp air touches cold walls. The resulting ‘sweating’ walls are a common problem in damp climates and anywhere that a basement contains air that is wetter and warmer than its walls. And in the days before frost-free refrigerators, ‘snow’ built up into glaciers in the freezer compartment for the same reason.

To fight sweating walls, dehumidifiers and ventilators will help, especially an outside vent for the warm wet air from the clothes dryer.

A child in the rain in New Delhi on Tuesday. AFP

For feedback and suggestions for ‘Science’, please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject ‘Daily page’

Pub co-owned by Virat Kohli among three found to be violating time limit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cubbon Park police have registered cases after three bars and resturants, including One8 Commune co-owned by cricketer Virat Kohli, were found to be operating beyond permissible hours.

Based on a tip-off, a police team, led by PSI Ashok Thakur, raided One8 Commune pub, situated at the Rathnam's Complex building on Kasturba Road near M.G. Road, around 2 a.m. on Saturday and found it fully operational.

The manager of the pub has been booked under the Karnataka Police Act, 1963.

Similar search operations were also conducted at two more establishments – Empire Restaurant on Church Street and Pangeo Pub on Brigade Road.

"We received multiple complaints of loud music being played at these pubs beyond the deadline. So we raided some of these places and booked cases," said a senior police official.

Restaurants and pubs in Bengaluru can only serve customers until 1 a.m., beyond which they are supposed to close down operations.

Passengers have narrow escape as bus catches fire

Vehicle was heading towards Shivajinagar from Old Airport Road, when driver noticed smoke coming out of the battery box

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Several passengers had a narrow escape when a Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus caught fire on M.G. Road near Anil Kumble Circle on Tuesday at around 8.50 a.m.

The driver was heading towards Shivajinagar from Old Airport Road, when he noticed smoke coming out of the battery box. He stopped the bus and evacuated the passengers. Soon flames emerged from the engine. There were nearly 25 passengers on the bus.

Witnesses reported that the fire spread rapidly and smoke engulfed the area for some time. "The bus caught fire all of a sudden, and the area was covered in smoke. Within minutes, the fire engulfed the entire bus. It was doused after a fire tender arrived," said Sangeetha Murthy, who was on her way to her office on Infantry Road.

Traffic police blocked the area and diverted vehicles from M.G. Road The fire tender arrived at the spot by 9 a.m., and managed to control and extinguish the blaze, after nearly half-an-hour.

The bus that caught fire on M.G. Road on Tuesday.

A BMTC spokesperson told *The Hindu* that the bus halted on the road, and upon attempting to restart, the driver noticed smoke. He immediately inspected the situation and instructed all passengers to disembark. Both the driver and the conductor then used onboard fire extinguishers to suppress the fire.

"The preliminary investigation suggests a short-circuit as the likely cause. However, we are conducting a thorough investigation," the official added.

After extinguishing the fire, the bus was towed to the depot where mechanical officers were conducting further investigation.

Darshan files petition in HC to get home food, bedding, and clothes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Darshan

Claiming that he is suffering from diarrhoea as he is unable to digest the food provided in the prison, Kannada film actor Darshan filed a petition in the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday seeking directions to the prison authorities to permit him to have access to privately sourced/home food, cutlery, clothing, bedding, and books to be supplied by his family members.

The actor, in his petition submitted to the court through his advocate, has pointed out that doctors in the prison had diagnosed his health problem as food poisoning due to which he lost several kilos of weight as he was unable to eat the food being provided in the prison. The petition is yet to be listed for hearing.

It has been claimed that the prison authorities have refused his plea to access the food from his family members on the reason that they cannot allow food from outside in the absence of an order from a court even though Section 30 of the Karnataka Prisons Act, 1963, allows undertrial prisoners to receive these materials from their own private sources.

The actor is lodged in the prison after his arrest last month in connection with his alleged role in the abduction, torture and murder of his fan Renukaswamy of Chitradurga.

'Change in land use patterns disrupting genetic connectivity of gaur and sambar'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The study also highlights the need for intervention to protect the gaur populations in small protected areas, like Umred Karhandla Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra. FILE PHOTO

A recent study from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) has revealed that change in land use patterns and roads in the central Indian landscape are disrupting the genetic connectivity of two large herbivores: the gaur and the sambar. This study is the first to examine the genetic connectivity of large herbivores at a landscape scale in India.

The study also highlights the need for intervention to protect the gaur populations in small protected areas, like Umred Karhandla Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra.

Herbivores crucial

"Herbivores are crucial for maintaining the ecosystem, yet most species remain understudied. While the connectivity of carnivores has been investigated, little is known about how herbivores respond to habitat modification and fragmentation. This study underscores that different species have varying needs for connectivity and traversing the landscape," said Abhinav Tyagi, lead author of the study.

The NCBS said that habitat loss and fragmentation are major drivers of species extinction across the globe.

It added that central India, like other areas of conservation concern, faces threats from growing linear infrastructure, such as highways, railway lines, and changes in land use patterns, expanding road network, mining activities and other development projects.

"Such infrastructures hinder animal movement creating fragmented populations confined within small habitat patches disconnected from each other. Maintaining movement among habitat patches usually results in mating and genetic exchange, the loss of which can increase the probability of species extinction," it said.

To investigate genetic connectivity, the research team collected hundreds of faecal samples of gaurs and sambars from Kanha Tiger Reserve, Pench Tiger Reserve, Nagzira-Nawagaon Tiger Reserve, Bor Tiger Reserve, Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, Umred Karhandla Wildlife Sanctuary, and the wildlife corridor between Kanha and Pench Tiger reserves.

Using next-generation sequencing (NGS) and combination of population and landscape genetic tools, the team investigated whether the species comprised a single contiguous population across the landscape or were fragmented into distinct groups.

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

सेन्ट्रल मैन्युफैक्चरिंग टेक्नोलॉजि इंस्टिट्यूट CMTI
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Advt No: 03/2024
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3.	Project Associate*	Rs. 25000/- + HRA	36
4.	Project Assistant – II	Rs. 20,000/- + HRA	12
5.	Project Assistant – I	Rs. 18,000/- + HRA	06
6.	Data Entry Operator cum Assistant*	Rs. 20,000/- + HRA	17
7.	Mechanic cum Driver	Rs. 18,000/- + HRA	01

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The inflow of equity mutual funds in the month of June

40,608 in ₹ crore. There was a 17% increase in equity mutual funds inflow, when compared to May, as per the Association of Mutual Funds in India. PTI

Number of non-AC coaches to be built over next two fiscals

10,000 In the next two years, the overall count of non-AC coaches will be increased by 22%, according to the northern Railway. PTI

The number of jobs added in India in FY24 as per the RBI

4.7 crore. The total number of employed people in the country rose to 64.33 crore in 2023-24, spread over 27 sectors covering the entire economy, according to data by the Reserve Bank of India. PTI

The domestic air passenger traffic in the month of June

1.32 crore. Domestic air passenger traffic in June was 3.7% lower than in May but 6.3% higher compared to the year-ago period. Air passenger traffic's momentum is expected to continue. PTI

The number of child labourers rescued in Delhi

23 children. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) issued a notice to the Delhi government over reports of child labourers rescued from the northwest district. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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What is the draft Digital Competition Bill?

How is an ex-post framework different from an ex-ante framework? Why does the draft Bill encourage an ex-ante competition regulation? What framework does the European Union follow? What are systemically significant digital enterprises?

EXPLAINER

Trishee Goyal

The story so far:
In February 2023, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) constituted a Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) to examine the need for a separate law on competition in digital markets. The CDCL deliberated on the issue for a year and came to the conclusion that there was a need to supplement the current ex-post framework under the Competition Act, 2002 with an ex-ante framework. It laid out this ex-ante framework in the draft Digital Competition Bill.

What is an ex-ante framework?
The Competition Act, 2002 is the primary legislation concerned for preventing practices that have an adverse effect on competition. It establishes the Competition Commission of India (CCI) as the national competition regulator. As with competition law in all other jurisdictions, the Competition Act, 2002 is based on an ex-post framework. This means that the CCI can use its powers of enforcement only after the anti-competitive conduct has occurred.

In the case of digital markets, the CDCL has advocated for an ex-ante competition regulation. This means that they want the CCI's enforcement powers to be supplemented such that it allows it to pre-empt and prevent digital enterprises from indulging in anti-competitive conduct in the first place.

Ex-ante competition regulation is unusual. The European Union is the only jurisdiction where a comprehensive ex-ante competition framework, under the Digital Markets Act, is currently in force. The CDCL agrees with this approach because of the unique characteristics of digital markets. First, digital enterprises enjoy economies of scale and economies of scope, that is, reduction in cost of production per unit as the number of units increase and reduction in total costs of production with increase in number of services respectively. This propels them to grow rather quickly as compared to players in the traditional market. Second, this growth is aided by network effects – utility of the digital services increases with the increase in the number of users.

ISTOCKPHOTO

In this context, given that markets can tip relatively quickly and irreversibly in favour of the incumbents, it was found that the extant framework provided for a time consuming process, allowing offending actors to escape timely scrutiny. Therefore, the CDCL has advocated for preventative obligations to supplement the ex-post facto enforcement framework.

What is the draft's basic framework?
The draft Bill follows the template of the EU's Digital Markets Act. It does not intend to regulate all digital enterprises, and places obligations only on those that are "dominant" in digital market segments. At present, the draft Bill identifies ten 'core digital services' such as online search engines, social networking services, video sharing platform services etc. The draft Bill prescribes certain quantitative standards for the CCI to identify dominance of digital enterprises. These are based on the 'significant financial strength' test which looks at financial parameters and 'significant spread' test based on the number of users in India. Even if the digital enterprise does not meet quantitative standards, the CCI may designate an entity as a "systemically significant digital enterprise (SSDE)" based on qualitative standards.

The primary obligation of SSDEs is to not indulge in anti-competitive practices. These require the SSDE to operate in a fair, non-discriminatory and transparent manner with its users. The draft Bill prohibits SSDEs from favouring its own products on its platform over those of third parties (self-preferencing); restricting availability of third party applications and not allowing users to change default settings; restricting businesses users of the service from directly communicating with their end users (anti-steering) and tying or bundling of non-essential services to the service being demanded by the user. SSDEs also cannot cross utilise user data collected from the core digital service for another service and non-public data of users cannot be used to give unfair advantage to the SSDE's own service.

What has been the response?
The overriding sentiment towards the draft Bill has been one of opposition. First, there is considerable scepticism on how well an ex-ante model of regulation will work. This stems in part from the fact that it seems to be transposed from the EU to India without taking into account differentiating factors between the two jurisdictions and the lack of evidence of it actually working well there. This is compounded by concerns of its potential negative effects on investments for start-ups in India and that they might be deterred to scale up to prevent meeting quantitative thresholds. Studies have also shown that restrictions on tying and bundling and data usage would negatively impact MSMEs that have come to rely significantly on big tech to reduce operational costs and enhance customer outreach.

Interestingly, a group of Indian start-ups have supported the draft Bill arguing that it would address concerns against monopolistic practices by big tech. However, they have argued for a revision of financial and user based thresholds citing concerns that it may lead to domestic start-ups being brought within the regulatory net.

The writer is a technology policy consultant.

THE GIST

- In February 2023, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) constituted a Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) to examine the need for a separate law on competition in digital markets.
- In the case of digital markets, the CDCL has advocated for an ex-ante competition regulation. This means that they want the CCI's enforcement powers to be supplemented such that it allows it to pre-empt and prevent digital enterprises from indulging in anti-competitive conduct in the first place.
- The overriding sentiment towards the draft Bill has been one of opposition. First, there is considerable scepticism on how well an ex-ante model of regulation will work. This stems in part from the fact that it seems to be transposed from the EU to India without taking into account differentiating factors between the two jurisdictions.

On reducing tariffs for smartphone components

Why is the industry body calling for tariff cuts if it wants to expand domestic production?

Aroon Deep

The story so far:
The Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA), an industry body representing mobile and other electronics assembly and manufacturing units, has called for a reduction of tariffs on certain components for smartphones. The demand appears, at first blush, to be at odds with the goal of the government – and domestic players – to expand the domestic industrial base for components. However, the ICEA, whose members have included Apple and Foxconn, has argued that it opposes tariff cuts for components that are widely manufactured in India, such as open cells and LED light parts.

Why impose tariff cuts?
Reducing input costs for smartphone assembly units is the obvious reason for these demands. However, a principal justification makers cite for reduced tariffs on components is the saturation of the domestic market: nearly every phone made in India is assembled domestically, and the surplus is exported. By units, smartphones were the fifth largest classifiable commodity exported in the financial year 2022-23, compared to 2015-16, when the rank was 178. The implication goes, now that domestic demand is fulfilled, the need for high component tariffs has dimmed.

The second justification, the industry cites, is the nature of the specific components that it is seeking duty cuts for: Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs) and sub-assemblies, which are highly complex, and miniaturised inputs for smartphones, are not close to being made in India, increasing costs for local assembly operations. Domestic manufacturing of these components' could take around eight years, Pankaj Mohindroo, ICEA's president estimated.

In addition, the ICEA said in a report last year, "the overall aggregate demand necessary for domestic investment in some inputs is much larger than the demand created by the prevailing production level." This effectively means that current tariff levels on PCBs (20%) and other inputs are not resulting in increased domestic production of these components; rather, they are increasing the costs of assembly, as the components have to be assembled anyway.

The tariffs are also leading to a strange consequence: domestic component makers are jacking up prices they quote to assembly units to a "just noticeable difference" below the net cost of an imported component. Cutting tariffs would force domestic component makers to cut their prices and relieve operating expense pressure for assembly units.

What about foreign competitors?
The industry is casting these proposed changes as a "competitive re-alignment" to keep up with other main electronics manufacturing giants in China, Vietnam, Thailand and Mexico. Vietnam's "bonded zones," which have special exemptions on duties, allow assembly and manufacturing units based there to enjoy much lower tariffs on component imports. "If Indian companies such as Micromax and Lava want their phone to be competitive in the global market, they should not think of import substitution when selecting parts and components," ICEA argues. "They should use the best available technologies to make their phones, regardless of the fact the technologies are made in India or not."

"When China started to assemble smartphones 15 years ago, Chinese firms' only contribution was labour intensive assembly, accounting for about 3.6% of the total manufacturing value addition," the ICEA report says. "But, today, Chinese firms have captured about 25 per cent of the manufacturing value added by providing battery, camera filter, glass back-cover, stainless frame, printed circuit board assembly, and other parts, which are technology intensive and offer higher value added than pure assembly service," the ICEA points out. "[T]here is a need to scale up production of smartphones. At this stage this can only be done by increasing exports. To increase exports, smartphones have to be competitive vis a vis China and Vietnam. This would require reducing tariffs and most importantly maintaining a stability in the tariff regime."

Smartphone assembly units have been buoyed by the production linked incentive scheme for mobile manufacturing, which subsidises phones which are domestically assembled.

THE GIST

- The Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA), an industry body representing mobile and other electronics assembly and manufacturing units, has called for a reduction of tariffs on certain components for smartphones.
- Reducing input costs for smartphone assembly units is the obvious reason for these demands.
- "If Indian companies such as Micromax and Lava want their phone to be competitive in the global market, they should not think of import substitution when selecting parts and components," ICEA argues. "They should use the best available technologies to make their phones, regardless of the fact the technologies are made in India or not."

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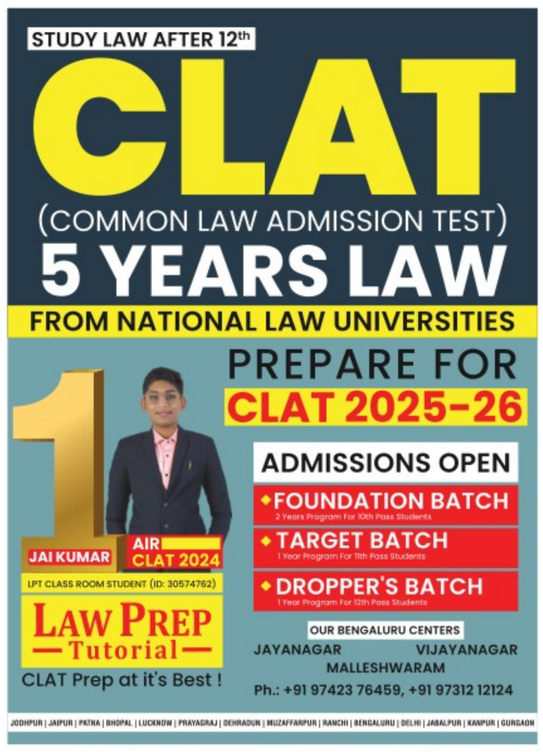

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KRISHNAMURTHY.H, R/a #300, Gangamma Temple Street, Avani Vill & Post, Mulabagalu Taluk, Kolar (Dist), Karnataka-563127 have changed my minor daughter's name from Mokshapriya.K to Monisha K vide affidavit dt: 05.05.2022 sworn before Notary K.M.Vijaya Kumar, Kolar

I, KRISHNA, #37-38, Shirdi Sai Nagar, 1st Cross, Narayanapura Main Road, Dr. Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Bengaluru- 560077 have changed my name to Krishna S Lakhtariya vide affidavit dated: 27.05.2023 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bengaluru

I, SOWMYA Mehendarkar Rama Rao, D/o Rama Rao, R/a No.110, A Cross, Venkateshpura Main Road, A C Post, K G Halli, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Madiha Fathimah vide affidavit dt: 05.07.2024 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MAHESHWARI, D/o MD Saliha Shareef, R/a No.46/1, Bandepalya, Near Maruti Timber, Garvebhavipalya, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068 have changed my name to S Qamrunnissa vide affidavit dt: 08..7.2024 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, B'lore.

I, SHRUTI Sheelavant, C/o Ambareesh Kotanoor, #24, Near Police Station, Kembhavi, Yadgir-585216, have changed my name from Shruti Sheelavant to Shruti vide affidavit dated 09-07-2024 before Notary K.V.Mani, Bengaluru.

SITUATION VACANT

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GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HINDU RELIGIOUS & CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS DEPARTMENT
ARULMIGU ARUNACHALESWARAR TEMPLE,
TIRUVANNAMALAI.

e-Tender Notice No .05/2023-2024/ Dated.05.07.2024

e-TENDER NOTICE (TWO COVER SYSTEM)
FORM OF CONTRACT: LUMPSUM

e-Tenders are invited by The Joint Commissioner / Executive Officer of Arulmigu Arunachaleswarar Tirukkovil,Tiruvannamalai, District for the following work. The e-Tender schedule (BOQ) are available from 12.07.2024 to 13.08.2024 up to 5.45 pm will downloaded from the website **http://tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost. The e-Tender documents (BOQ) are to uploaded through online on (or) before 14.08.2024 up to 3.00 pm. The received tenders will be opened on 14.08.2024 at 4.00 pm through online. EMD will be remitted through online. All documents are produced through online in the mode of pdf file. Important documents, Tenders documents and correctness documents are downloaded from the website **http://tntenders.gov.in** and not publish in newspaper.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approximate Value of Work Incl. GST (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Contractors Qualification
1	Master Plan Works for Arulmigu Arunachaleswarar Thirukkovil, Tiruvannamalai.	3372.97 Lakhs	16,97,000/- (EMD Remitted to in Favour of "Joint Commissioner / Executive Officer, Arulmigu Arunachaleswarar Temple, Tiruvannamalai" through online only)	18 Months	Registered, Live, and qualified contractors in Tamilnadu Government Departments/ State Government undertakings

R.Jeevanantham
Trust Board Chairman

Trustees
U. Meenakshi Sundharam T.V.S. Rajaram
G. Gomathi Gunasekaran R. Perumal

C.Jothi
Joint Commissioner / Executive Officer,

DIPR/2236/Tender/2024

ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಎಫ್ **ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರ ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ನಿಯಮಿತ**

ಕಹಾಮ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ, ಡಾ. ಎಂ. ಹೆಚ್ ಮರೀಗೌಡ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560 029. ಫೋನ್ 25536625, 25536789

IFT No : ಕಹಾಮ/ಅಭಿ/ಹ.ಆ.ಘ–ಹಾಸನ/ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು/01722/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.07.2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳವು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ/ಸಿ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ/ಎಂ.ಇ.ಎಸ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು / ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಚೇನ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ನ್ನು (Technical and Financial) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತರು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಕೆಲಸದ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ.	ಮುಕ್ತಾಯದ ಅವಧಿ
1	ಕಹಾಮದ ಹಾಸನ ಪಶು ಆಹಾರ ಘಟಕ– 1 ಮತ್ತು 2 ರ ಕ್ಯಾಂ ಸ್ಟೋರೆಜ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀಟ್ ಕ್ಲಾಡಿಂಗ್ ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು, ಹಾಗೂ ಎಫ್.ಎಂ.ಜಿ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್.ಎಂ.ಜಿ ಗೋದಾಮುಗಳ ಮೇಲ್ಛಾವಣಿಯ ಎ.ಸಿ ಶೀಟ್‌ಗಳ ಬದಲು ಜಿ.ಐ ಶೀಟ್ ಅಳವಡಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತಿತರೆ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ. – ಹಾಸನ	105.65 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು	1,59,000/–	06 ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳು

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.07.2024 ರಿಂದ 24.07.2024 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 24.07.2024 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು (Cover - 1) ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.07.2024 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ಪರವಾಗಿ
ಸಹಿ/– ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಅಭಿಯಂತರ–1)

NATA2024
NATIONAL APTITUDE TEST IN ARCHITECTURE

Council of Architecture
(A Statutory Authority of Government of India under the Architects Act, 1972)

Ref.CA/498/2024/MSAR (Regulations)

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE IN ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION TO B.ARCH. COURSE

The Council, with the approval of the Central Government, has amended the Regulation 4(1) of the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulations, 2020 and **amended the eligibility for admission to Architecture course** as under:

1. "(1) No candidate shall be admitted to architecture course unless she/he has passed 10+2 or equivalent examination with Physics and Mathematics as compulsory subjects along with either Chemistry or Biology or Technical Vocational subject or Computer Science or Information Technology or Informatics Practices or Engineering Graphics or Business Studies with at least 45% marks in aggregate or passed 10+3 Diploma Examination with Mathematics as compulsory subject with at least 45% marks in aggregate."

Relaxation in percentage of marks obtained in the qualifying examination for admission shall be as per the reservation policy of Central Government or the respective State Governments.

Accordingly, all stakeholders i.e. students, parents, architectural institutions and concerned competent authorities are advised to follow the above eligibility criteria for admission to First Year of 5-year B.Arch. Degree Course from academic session 2024-25 onwards. For further details please visit NATA website **www.nata.in**.

New Delhi
July 09, 2024

R. K. Oberoi
Registrar

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, my clients negotiating to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from its owners: **1. Sri. Kekuraj,** S/o Late Siddamalliah H.M, aged about 57 years, **2. Smt. Sujatha,** W/o Sri. Kekuraj, aged about 49 years, **3. Sri. Renuka Prasanna,** S/o Sri. Kekuraj, aged about 32 years, **4. Smt. Bindushree,** D/o Sri. Kekuraj, aged about 27 years, **5. Sri. Nagaraju B.S,** S/o Late Siddamallaiah H.M, aged about 53 years, **6. Smt. Gowramma,** W/o Sri. Nagaraju B.S, aged about 43 years. All are residing at Bidadi, Bidadi Main Road, Bidadi Village & Hobli, Ramangar Taluk & District.

Any person having objection or interest in the schedule property may write to the undersigned with documentary evidence within **15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise, my clients will proceed with the sale transaction, construing that nobody has any right or interest in the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the **Land bearing Survey No. 6/8,** measuring to an extent of **7 (Seven) Guntas,** situated at **Bidadi Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagar Taluk and District** and bounded on:-

East by : Land belongs to Revaraje Aruns,
West by : Land belongs to Chikkavenkatappa,
North by : Land belongs to Munivenkatamma,
South by : Land belongs to Sangappa.

Sd/-
N. RAJANNA, Advocate,
LGF.16, No.36, MKS Arcade, Bellary Main Road, Ganganagar, Bengaluru-560 032. Mob: 9845543701
Place : Bengaluru Date: 09.07.2024

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DATE: 19, 20 & 21 July 2024 (Mode: Online)
Time: 06.00 PM to 09.00 PM / Rs. 1770 /- (Inclusive of GST)
Contact Number: 9944971623,8129988725
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No. 05-S&T/MYS/2024-1 & 2 Dated 04.07.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1.	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Electronic Interlocking Systems of KYOSAN make installed at Ramagiri, Holalkere, Sasulu, Mayakonda, Kodaganur, Tolahunse, Davangere, Amaravathi Conony Jn., Harihar, Kumarapatnam siding, Chalgeri, Ranibennur, Devargudda, Belagula, Ashokapuram, Kadakola and Hassan Jn. stations for two years.	₹3,40,33,392/-
2.	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Electronic Interlocking Systems of Medha Servo Drives Pvt. Ltd. make installed at Shivani, Hosadurga Road, Ammasandra, Banasandra, Kardi, Tiptur, Honnavalli road, Haveri, Byadgi station for three years.	₹1,98,21,024/-
	Last Date for submission of bids: **upto 11:00 hrs. on 25.07.2024**	

For Details Log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal Telecommunication Engineer, Mysuru

PUB/237/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASTRA
Public Works Division, Parbhani
E-Tender Notice No. 07 (2nd call) of 2024-2025

Online Tender (e-tenders) in B-1 for **1** works are invited by the Executive Engineer P.W. Division, Parbhani (Phone No 02452-222708) on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management system **https:/maharashtra.etenders.in/** from registered contractors in appropriate class with Public Works Department of Maharashtra State

The details can be viewed and download online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-tendering portal **https://mahatenders.gov.in or www.mahapwd.com**

(**Note**:- For Further changes in this Notice Please check above website)

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division
Parbhani

RAIL LAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Railways, Government of India)
Unit No. 702-B, 7th Floor, Konnectus Tower-II, DMRC Building, Ajmeri Gate, New Delhi-110002 Phone: + 91-11-23232854

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL THROUGH E-TENDER
(RFP Notice No. RLDA/2024/RFP/CD/CRD-30 Dated 01.07.2024)
GRANT OF LEASE FOR REDEVELOMENT OF 2.156 HA OF BOULEVARD ROAD RAILWAY COLONY, DELHI FOR 99 YEARS

Site Description	Approx. area of Site (sqm)	FSI	Reserve Price (Rs.)
Boulevard Road Railway Colony, Delhi	21568.35 sqm.	Maximum permissible FSI on the subject site is 0.75 on Gross Area of Plot	318 Crore

Online PRE-BID MEETING: 19th July, 2024 AT 11:30 HRS
(Online Pre-bid meeting details to be obtained from Joint General Manager/Project-4)
Last Date of Submission of E-bid Online: 23.08.2024 UPTO 15:00 HRS
For Further details of the project, please visit our website **www.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in** or on e-procurement Portal **www.tenderwizard.in/RLDA** Under the heading **'e-tender'**
For any clarifications, may please contact: -

Joint General Manager/ Project-4	General Manger/Project-3	Consultant of the Site:	For e-bid queries:
Mob: 9990114988 jgmprj4@rlda.railnet.gov.in	Mob: 9717275534 gm.project3@rlda.railnet.gov.in	Mr. Sulabh Goel Mob: 9899911835 sulabh.goel@in.ey.com	Mr. Suraj Singh M: 9599653865 suraj@etenderwizard.com

Note:- Corrigendum or Addendum shall be published only on RLDA's Website e-procurement portal.

JGM/Expert/Tender (M) 9711305031

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Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). E-Mail: purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
242513 002037	Steaming (Non-coking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 4200 GAR of Indonesian origin.	23.07.2024

Submission of E-tender at **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, Quantity, Tender Fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/2233/Tender/2024 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

CONTRACTUAL HIRING : RESIDENT LADY WARDEN

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   (b) Ensure daily routine including studies, timely issue of meals, hygiene of students and overall supervision.
3. **Facilities on contractual employment.**
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   (c) Free boarding.
   (d) Free water and electricity.
4. **Terms.**
   (a) Must be over 38 years of age.
   (b) Must be able to speak Hindi / English (Mandatory).
   (c) Minimum education qualification – Graduate in any discipline.
5. All applications must reach Secretary WMH, HQ, MEG & Centre, Shivanchetty Garden, Ulsoor Lake. **Last date for submission of application is 27 Jul 2024**
   Contact No 6005317267 & 6397506585.

KARNATAKA STATE POLICE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
59, Richmond road, (Gen K.S. Thimmaiah Road)
Bengaluru-25. Ph : 080 - 25584102 / 2559 4893
Website: www.ksphc.org **e mail :** eecontractksphc@gmail.com,

No. EE/KSPH&IDCL/CNT/Tender/07/2024-25/139 Date: 09.07.2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

KSPH & IDCL invites online tender as per KTPP 2000 Act & as per Standard Tender Document through KPPP **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works.

1) **Construction of Police Station (Grade-3) at Kodigenahalli in Tumkuru District. (KW-4) (Two Tender Document Systems).** Amt. Put to Tender including GST : **Rs.133.17 Lakh.**
2) **Providing Furnitures to District Police Office (D.P.O) Building at Haveri in Haveri District. (KW-2) (Two Tender Document Systems).** Amt. Put to Tender including GST : **Rs.36.23 Lakh.**

Interested eligible Contractors may participate in the tendering process. The details such as Tender fee, EMD, Tender documents etc., are available on KPPP **from 10.07.2024 onwards.** "KSPH & IDCL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reasons."

Note: Henceforth any changes / modifications in the tender will be updated only on KPPP.

Sd/- Executive Engineer – Contracts
DIPR/CP/RO843/AAPL/2024-25

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Head Office, # 6/13/1, 10th Block, 2nd Phase, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560072,
Telephone:Ph-080-22282220, **email:** kredlmd@gmail.com
www.kredl.karnataka.gov.in

No. KREDL/SG/F-1530/2024-25/ Date: 10.07.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Type of Bidding: National Competitive bidding
Mode of Bidding: Open tender, Single stage two envelope.
COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL), hereby invites bids for selection of Solar Power Developer through tariff based competitive bidding process for establishing Ground Mounted Grid Connected 100MWAC Solar PV Plant with 100 MWhr BESS at Nadisinnur village of Kalaburagi taluk, Kalaburagi District along with interconnection at 220kV level of 400/220kV Firozabad KPTCL substation in Kalaburagi Taluk on **"Build-Own-Operate"** basis for procurement of Power by BESCOM. Bid documents will be available in the Bharat Electronics Tender Portal **(https://www.bharat-electronictender.com)** on or **after 15.07.2024.** Details are also available in KREDL website.

Note: KREDL reserves the right to annul the bidding process and invite fresh bids without liability or obligation for such invitation and without assigning any reasons. Any further modification will only be notified in Bharat portal and KREDL websites.

Sd/- AGM, SOLAR GRID, KREDL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my clients intends to purchase agricultural land bearing **survey No.128, Khatha No.136**, measuring **3 acres 16 guntas,** situated at Gurur Village, Soluru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, from its owner **Mrs. Krishna Kumari S,** Wife of Sri. K.S.V. Subramaniam, and survey **No. 129, Khata No.158,** measuring **1 acre 05 guntas,** situated at Gurur Village, Soluru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, from its owner **Mr.Rajesh S**, son of Sri. K.V.S. Subramaniam, both are residing at **No.35, "ANUGRAHA" Promenade Road, Fraser Town, Bangalore-560005.**

Any person having any right, title or interest of claim whatsoever in respect of the aforesaid property, may lodge his/her objection in writing with documentary proof, **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice, with the undersigned, failing which it will be deemed that there is no legal impediment to complete the sale transaction, without any reference to any such claim, title or interest which shall be deemed to have been waived.

STANLEY LAZARUS, Advocate & Notary,
No.32, Old Madras Road, Bangalore-560 008.
Ph: 9448046962

CAUTION PUBLIC NOTICE

On the instruction of our Client M/s. JSM Restaurants India Pvt. Ltd., having office at C/o JSM IC Restaurants Pvt Ltd, B-28, Floor-2, B Wing, Todi Industrial Estate, Sitaram Jadhav Marg, Sun Mill Compound, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013 Represented by Mr. Sanjay Mahtani, we state as hereunder :

(1.) Our Client, has filed an Application under Section 9 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 in Com. A.A No. 123/2024 before the LXXXII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, Commercial Courts Division, Bengaluru against M/s. Citadel Panda Express, Inc., having office at C/o Panda Restaurant Group, INC,1683 Walnut Grove Avenue, Rosemead, California 91770 USA;

(2.) In the aforesaid proceedings, which is arising out of the Development and Multi-Restaurant Franchise Agreement dated 07.11.2014, the matter is posted for hearing on the main Application on 15.07.2024.

In this view of the above, our Client would like to notify that any transaction(s) entered into with M/s. Citadel Panda Express, Inc. with respect to / in relation to the said aforesaid Agreement, would be without prejudice to our Client's rights as stated above.

Ms. Suneha Bhandary
For AKS Law Associates
E-301, Sunrise Chambers, No. 22,
Ulsoor Road, Bengaluru - 560 042.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ajay Gupta, S/o. Late T.R. Ramanatha Gupta, residing at No.2288, Gupta's Castle, 2nd Cross, 3rd Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage, Old Airport Road, Bangalore-560017 have changed my name from Ajay T.R. to Ajay Gupta vide affidavit dated 09.07.2024 sworn before Notary Anita Bai, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my Client is intend to purchase a Residential Site/property more fully described in the Schedule hereunder from **SRI. YESHWANTH SHETTY,** Aged about 60 years, S/o Sri. Seena Shetty, residing at No.22, Green Vyaly Township, 2nd Stage, Bharath Nagar, Magadi Main Road, Bengaluru-560 091. If any person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim on the below mentioned Schedule Property, they may file their objections with the undersigned along with documentary proof WITHIN **15 (FIFTEEN) DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my Client will proceed to complete the sale transaction as the same is free from all encumbrances/claims. Any objections received thereafter shall not be entertained/ considered.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property being BDA Site bearing **No.537** in the layout formed **by Bangalore Development Authority, in further extension of 7th Block of Sir M. Vishveshwarayyanagara Layout, Bangalore,** presently bearing Property ID No. **4312070572,** measuring East to West: **9.00 Mtrs.** and North to South: **12.00 Mtrs**. totally measuring **108.00 Square meters** and bounded on :

East by : Site No.536
West by : Site No.538
North by : Road
South by : Site Nos.502 and 503

(U.L.SOMAPPA) Advocate & Notary
 # 708/41, Upstairs, Sree Ramanjaneya Road Srinagar, Bangalore-560050.
(M) 94480 50108, 98806 14954
Bangalore Date : 09-07-2024

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public Works Division, Ahmednagar
Phone No. 0214/2325334 & 0241/2325086
E-TENDER NOTICE NO.01 FOR 2024-25 (Online)
e-mail-ahmednagar.ee@mahapwd.gov.in

Online E-Tenders in B-1 Form for the following works invited by Executive Engineer Public Works Division, Ahmednagar (Phone No. 0241-2325334/2325086) From the Competent and Interested contractors (Not Necessary Registered with P.W.D.and) If Global Company having its Branch/Sub Company in Indian they can Participate in Tender.

Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Ahmednagar who reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason there fore.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Amount in Lakhs
1	Improvements to Rahata Lohare Mandwe Parner Shrigonda Road SH 67, Km 90/650 to 93/350, 98/00 to 99/100, 105/00 to 108/00, Tal. Parner Dist. Ahmednagar 546	Rs.546.63 Lakhs
2	Improvements to Parner Supa SH-69 to Vadner Haveli Ralegan Siddhi Road MDR-218 Km. 1/000 to 6/400, Tal. Parner Dist. Ahmednagar	Rs.754.99 Lakhs
3	S.T.B.T. to Ahmednagar Takali kazi Bhatodi to Beed road MSH 16 Km 10/850 to 15/350 Tal. Dist. Ahmednagar	Rs.611.04 Lakhs
4	Improvement to Nimbalak Chas Khandala Valunj Narayandoh Pimpalgaon Ujjaini Pokhardi Road MDR 1 from km 63/900 to 73/950 Tal. Nagar, Dist. Ahmednagar	Rs.1139.09 Lakhs
5	Construction og Ghat on Sina River at Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Birth place at choundi Tal.Jamkhed Dist. Ahmednagar	Rs.339.44 Lakhs
Tender sale start Date 10/07/2024 to 18/07/2024, Tender Opening Dt. 19/07/2024, Pre-Bid Meeting, In the Office of Chief Engineer, P.W.Region Office,Nashik Dt.15/07/2024 at 12.30 Hrs.		

The details of works are provided on the websites as below.
1.www.mahapwd.com.
2.https://mahatenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Public Work Division
Ahmednagar

DGIPR/2024-2025/692

ABSTRACT

Accessible for all: A tribal Adivasi woman in her hut in Anjankund Village in the Dang district of Gujarat on June 11. VIJAY SONEJI

Geospatial view on maternal healthcare for the tribal population in Gujarat

A look at how geographical location and factors such as time and distance determine access to health facilities for communities in the periphery of society. This spatial analysis highlights distinct pregnancy care patterns within tribal districts

Rebecca Rose Varghese

Kumar, Vijay and Tripathi, Tulika, 'Timely Access to Public Health Facilities for Pregnancy Care in Tribal Gujarat: A Geospatial Analysis', *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 59, Issue No. 22, Jun 01, 2024

A UN report in May 2023 highlighted that India accounted for over 17% of global maternal deaths in 2020, holding the highest share among the 10 countries responsible for 60% of global maternal deaths, stillbirths, and newborn deaths. The report emphasised the critical need to focus on maternal healthcare to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at improving maternal and child health outcomes and ensuring access to quality healthcare services (UNDP 2017).

Many articles have researched various aspects of maternal and pregnancy care in India. While some have focused on socio-economic factors, such as societal norms and financial constraints, that affect maternal healthcare access and outcomes in various regions of the country, others have examined issues related to the lack of infrastructure, policies, and government intervention that hinder the provision of quality maternal healthcare services.

This paper by Vijay Kumar and Tulika Tripathi examines access to maternal healthcare facilities from a geospatial perspective. Timely access to healthcare during pregnancy is necessary to ensure a healthy delivery, to prevent maternal and infant mortality, and to provide proper care for both mother and infant after birth. While many healthcare facilities may exist within a State, it is crucial to assess whether these facilities are concentrated in specific regions or distributed equitably across all areas, ensuring accessibility to all people, particularly those on the social and spatial peripheries of society. Thus, an analysis that considers both temporal and spatial aspects of healthcare, rather than solely focusing on population and socio-economic factors, becomes crucial.

Methodology

The study focuses on Gujarat's tribal population, constituting 14.8% of the total population, scattered across 14 districts. The study used GIS data, data from the National Family Health Survey and geocoded health facilities spread across districts with higher concentrations of tribal population including Dahod, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Aravalli, Mahisagar, Bharuch, Surat, Tapi, Dang, Navsari, Valsad, Panchmahal, Chhota Udaipur, and Narmada. To understand the accessibility of healthcare centres, the authors also used a car, a motorcycle and walking as the three modes of transportation to reach tertiary, secondary and primary health centres.

Through spatial analysis, mapping, and quantitative methods, the article gives a visual and quantitative understanding of the distribution of healthcare facilities within tribal regions across these districts and evaluates the extent to which people can access healthcare facilities for timely maternal care.

Mapping healthcare disparities

While the distribution of public health centres is expected to adhere to population norms and geographical considerations as per Indian Public Health Standards 2022, the authors highlight a bias towards population norms, often neglecting geographical factors. Consequently, many rural and tribal residents experience inadequate access to healthcare facilities, as resources are concentrated in urban areas to manage the growing population in smaller urban clusters. This disparity disproportionately disadvantages women, who are already hindered by limited resources and transportation access when seeking healthcare services.

The paper reveals that the average coverage of pregnancy care in Gujarat's tribal districts is 88%. About 80% of women receive antenatal care (ANC), while 90% give birth at healthcare facilities, and 92% receive postnatal care (PNC) for themselves and their infants. However, ANC coverage is notably lower in districts such as Banaskantha, Mahisagar, Sabarkantha, Dahod, and Bharuch. In Banaskantha and Bharuch, pregnancy care falls below WHO-prescribed thresholds in at least two care indicators. On the other hand, districts including Surat, Tapi, Dang, Navsari, and Valsad demonstrate better pregnancy care outcomes meeting WHO standards. The neglect of ANC is particularly concerning, even in districts with higher overall pregnancy care rates. Moreover, it showed that the worst-performing districts are in the north near Rajasthan and northwest near Madhya Pradesh, while the best-performing districts are in the south near Maharashtra.

This spatial analysis highlights distinct pregnancy care patterns within these tribal districts, pinpointing the geographical epicentre of the issue which can guide targeted interventions. The analysis also underscores the critical need to prioritise maternal and childcare improvements in these tribal-concentrated districts, with emphasis on enhancing ANC services.

Transportation constraints

As mentioned before, the authors used different modes of transportation to travel to the nearest tertiary, secondary and primary healthcare facilities to try and understand the possible bottlenecks faced by patients. It is worth mentioning that the authors admit to making assumptions about road connectivity and vehicle ownership in their analysis. Social norms and limited resources often prevent women, especially in rural areas, from using motorcycles, and there is limited public transportation available. Therefore, these factors must be considered when interpreting the findings of the paper that uses hypothetical distance norms and time criteria.

The analysis shows that over 50% of households reside more than 25 km away from tertiary care facilities while about 30% of households live away from community healthcare centres and primary healthcare centres. Such geographical constraints further limit women's access to health facilities even during pregnancy-related emergencies. And even if women are taken to hospitals in case of delivery complications, the proportion of women taken to health facilities for ANC and PNC after pregnancy remains inadequate.

The geospatial analysis also finds that health facilities are resources concentrated in urban regions, confirming previous research works.

Distance and time

When discussing access to healthcare, affordability and infrastructure are often the primary considerations. This study emphasises critical factors during emergencies, particularly in maternal and infant health: distance and time. Ensuring that public healthcare is easily accessible is crucial, especially for socially and economically disadvantaged populations who often face geographical barriers as well. For these communities, travelling long distances to private hospitals and bearing high transportation costs are not feasible options. Thus, it is imperative to implement policies that establish well-equipped public healthcare centres in easily accessible locations for disadvantaged communities.

Implementing such policies is essential not only to enhance social sector indicators but also to achieve UN SDGs. These efforts are vital to protect and improve healthcare access for vulnerable populations across the country

Looking at the tribal districts in Gujarat, where the population faces high levels of poverty, malnutrition, and inadequate healthcare access, the study highlights a broader national issue: the challenge of healthcare inaccessibility for disadvantaged communities due to geographical constraints, including issues of time, distance, and limited transportation options in the peripheral areas of a region. The study significantly contributes to our understanding of maternal health.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Sunil Gavaskar, arguably the greatest opening batsman of the game, turns 75 on July 10. Here is a quiz on the little master's illustrious career

Soorya Prakash. N

QUESTION 1
Sunil Gavaskar is the only player to have scored a century in the first innings and a double century in the second innings. Against whom and in which ground did he achieve this remarkable feat?

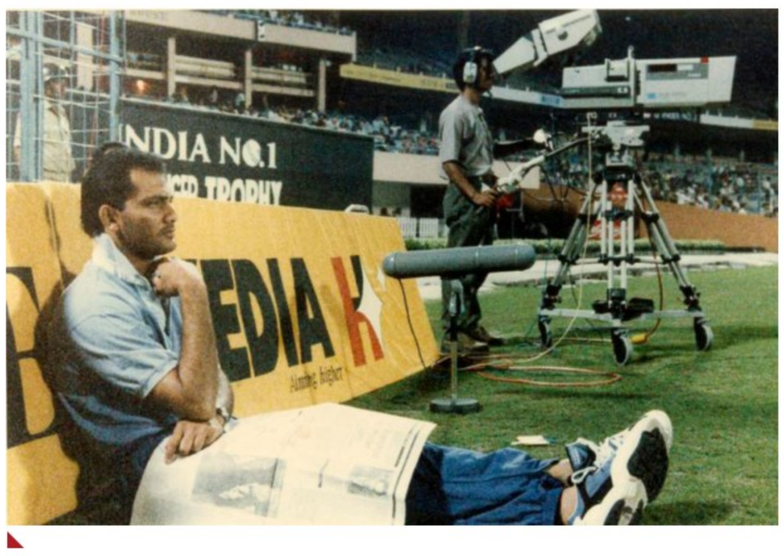
QUESTION 2
In which ground did Gavaskar score his only century in ODIs and against whom?

QUESTION 3
For which English county did Gavaskar play as their overseas cricketer in the year 1980?

QUESTION 4
In his test career spanning 125 tests and 198 dismissals, Gavaskar has been run out only five times and stumped two times. Interestingly, in one series, he got two dismissals in successive test matches. Who was the opposition?

QUESTION 5
Which bowler has dismissed the maestro most times in tests?

QUESTION 6
Gavaskar has been involved in triple century partnership in tests once. Who was his partner?



Visual question:
Identify this batsman with whom Gavaskar has been involved in four century partnerships in ODIs, the most with any partner? THE HINDU

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The christened name of Guru Dutt. He was part of this dancer's team in Almora. **Ans: Vasanth Kumar Padukone; Uday Shankar**
2. The number of Hindi films Dutt directed. **Ans: Eight**
3. This Indian cinema icon featured in the Dutt's directorial debut. **Ans: Dev Anand**
4. The cinematographer who cranked the camera in all of Dutt's directorial efforts. **Ans: V.K. Murthy**
5. The classic which was based on a story idea called 'Kashmakash' written by Dutt. **Ans: *Pyaasa***
6. This person drew all the cartoons of *Mr & Mrs. 55*. **Ans: R.K. Laxman**
7. A coincidence which connects Sanjeev Kumar and Guru Dutt. **Ans: Both were born on July 9**
Visual: Name this film and its achievement. **Ans: *Kaagaz Ke Phool*, the country's first CinemaScope film**
Early Birds: Seema Das| Prashant Nain| Sadhan Kumar Panda| Purnoor Kaur| Golu Kumar

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Meaning of 'rain check' (K. Ambika)."

"This colloquial expression came into being in 1890 in the U.S. The expression seems to have been coined by the Detroit Baseball Association. 'Rain check' referred to the ticket stub which the spectators received when they went to see a baseball game. If the game was cancelled because of rain, the spectators were allowed to use the same ticket to see another game on a later date. In some cases, a separate 'check' was issued which allowed the spectators to see the game. So 'rain check' was given to people whenever a baseball game was postponed because of bad weather.

With passage of time, the expression 'rain check' took on a wider meaning. It referred to a postponement of any kind, not just the postponement of a baseball game. The postponement could be a dinner, a sports event, etc. If somebody invites you to see a film and you say, "I am busy this evening, but I will take a rain check on the offer", what you mean is, you are interested in seeing the film, but on a later date. In other words, you are not turning down the invitation, but merely postponing the date of acceptance. The usual expression is 'take a rain check' on something.

Dinner tonight? I cannot make it. But I will take a rain check on it.

Pramod invited me to breakfast, but I took a rain check on his offer.

'To take a rain check' is an informal expression and is generally used in American English."

"Which is correct, 'His native is Madurai' or 'His native place is Madurai'?" (Padmavathi, Madurai).

"The first sentence is incorrect. The second sentence 'His native place is Madurai' is correct.

Ashok's native place is Nagpur.

Kasturi's native place is Bombay.

A native speaker of English may find such sentences slightly odd. He would instead say – 'Ashok is a native of Nagpur, Kasturi is a native of Bombay.' The more common expression nowadays is 'home town.' The expression 'home town' is American in origin.

Ashok's home town is Nagpur.

Kasturi's home town is Bombay.

In the 19th century, the phrase 'native place' was used by English writers and speakers. But I learn that it is rarely used these days in the U.K. "

"Difference between 'audience' and 'spectators' (A. Vaena Padmavathi)."

"The word 'spectator' is derived from the Latin word 'specere,' which means 'to look at'. 'Audience' is derived from the Latin word 'audire' which means 'to hear.' So 'audience' refers to a group of people who have come to listen to something, while spectators are those who have come to look at something.

The people who go to see cricket and hockey matches are called spectators. So are the people who go to see a circus or a boxing match. 'Audience' in current English is applied to those who see and hear concerts, operas, plays, movies, radio, television, etc. It is also applied to readers of a book, magazine, author, etc.

She is a writer and has a vast audience.

Published in The Hindu on August 18, 1992.

Word of the day

Swole:
Extremely muscled

Synonyms: brawny, hefty, powerful

Usage: *She is showing off some pretty swole arms.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/swolepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /swəʊl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 10		
RISE	06:00	SET 18:50
RISE	09:35	SET 22:13
THURSDAY, JUL. 11		
RISE	06:00	SET 18:50
RISE	10:20	SET 22:47
FRIDAY, JUL. 12		
RISE	06:00	SET 18:50
RISE	11:05	SET 23:21

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	25
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	26	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C Mostly dry weather to prevail. Day will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant.Thunderstorm may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain or thundershower is possible.

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THE HINDU
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Abandoned animals on the road: Traffic police write to BBMP

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

If you are someone who drives a vehicle on Bengaluru roads, it is not uncommon for you to encounter a stray cow, dog, or bull on the way. While this has been a problem in the city for years now, on Monday the Bengaluru Traffic Police wrote to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) about the safety issues from these obstructions.

"Abandoned animals, including cows, dogs, and other stray animals, are frequently found wandering on the streets, causing obstacles and hazards to vehicular traffic," said M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner (Traffic), Bengaluru.

He added: "These animals not only block traffic but also lead to accidents and near-miss incidents, putting the lives of commuters at risk. Our traffic personnel have reported numerous instances of vehicles slowing down or sudden stops to avoid hitting these animals, which can lead to rear-end collisions and other accidents."

This problem is prevalent, especially in south Bengaluru areas like Basavanagudi, Banashankari, K.R. Market, according to motorists.

"Some animals do not move even when we gently honk to get them out of the way. During night hours, if the animal is slightly dark in colour, then it becomes difficult to even spot them," said Shruthi Krishna, a resident of Basavanagudi.

Motorists in other parts of the city also said that this is a bigger problem at night than during the day.

"I feel anxious driving on many roads, especially in areas like Yeshwantpur and M.S. Palya in the night. While these animals are at least visible from a distance during daytime, the same is not the case in the night. We are forced to abruptly apply the brakes when we suddenly see them," said Nikhil Rajiv, a resident of Aditya Nagar, in north Bengaluru.

In his letter, Mr. Anucheth had requested the BBMP, which is the nodal agency for animal welfare and urban management, to remove the abandoned animals from the streets.

BBMP officials said they are continuously identifying animals which are obstructing the roads. "While we cannot move stray dogs due to a Supreme Court order, we catch cattle every day. Sometimes the owners come and pay a penalty and take them back. If no one claims them, then we send them to our goshale (cattle shelter) in Mahadevapura," said Ravikumar, Joint Director Animal Husbandry, BBMP.

But the problem is that the BBMP only has one cattle pound to collect these animals. "With this, we can only catch 10 cows in a day. Under Brand Bengaluru, we have asked for eight pounds (one for each zone) so that we make the process more efficient," he said.

Erstwhile Mysuru royal family set to question valuation of palace property

Bangalore Development Authority fixed rate of ₹120.68 per square metre to acquire part of the land for widening road

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

A recent valuation of the sprawling 472 acres of palace ground in the heart of Bengaluru at a mere ₹11 crore by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) for calculating Transferable Development Rights (TDR) raised several eyebrows. BDA fixed a rate of ₹120.68 per square metre to acquire part of the land for widening the road.

The current market value of the land is estimated to be around ₹100 crore per acre.

The civic authority justified its decision to fix the compensation based on the Bangalore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1996, that pegs the total value of the entire palace ground at ₹11 crore.

The authority justified its decision to fix the compensation based on the Bangalore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1996.

The TDR was issued as per the 2014 Supreme Court order for acquiring 15 acres and 17.5 guntas, or 62,475 square metres, of palace land for widening Ballari Road and Jayamahal Road, and ahead of the contempt petition coming before the Supreme Court on July 12.

As per the provisions of the Act, value of the land being acquired is pegged at ₹60 lakh, and 1.5 times the sum would come to around ₹1 crore.

The guidance value of the Stamps and Registration Department, revised in 2023-24, pegs the value of a square metre on Jayamahal Main Road at ₹2.04 lakh while the rate per square metre on Ballari Road is ₹2.85 lakh.

Considering an average guidance value of about ₹2.30 lakh per square metre, the value of the land to be acquired would be over ₹1,400 crore. The market value would be much more than that.

Under the TDR, the compensation is to be 1.5 times the market value or the guidance value, whichever is higher. This will work out to more than ₹2,100 crore, said a Bengaluru-based expert on TDR.

In June 2023, when the BBMP issued a notification for acquisition of a portion of palace land for widening of Jayamahal Road from Mehkri Circle to Cantonment Railway Station, it had mentioned the 'market value of the land' and had not invoked the value of land as per the Act, as has been done now.

A senior member of the erstwhile Mysuru royal family, which has been fighting against the acquisition of palaces in Bengaluru and Mysuru, said, "The notice issued to us does not even say how the TDR was calculated. Twice, they wanted us to take the Development Rights Certificates (DRCs), which we have not accepted. The rate fixed is a pittance. The contempt proceedings are on in the Supreme Court. We will approach the court against the TDR issued by the BDA."

Palace sources claimed that the government of Karnataka is "keen to escape contempt proceedings in the Supreme Court, and hence issued the DRCs in a hurry". Three contempt petitions were filed – in 2021, 2022 and 2023 – in the Supreme Court.

A member of the erstwhile royal family claimed that they would not get anything for the property as the per the acquisition Act. "There is no mention of the royal family in the list of claimants as per Chapter 5 of the Act." He claimed that the family is being "singled out for discrimination".

Activist lodges plaint against CM and wife

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

An RTI activist has lodged a complaint with Vijayanagar police station in Mysuru against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife Parvati, and others in connection with the alleged scam in allotment of residential sites by Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

The complainant Snehamayi Krishna said the Vijayanagar police has acknowledged receipt of the complaint, but has not registered an FIR.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (July 10, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- What is the draft Digital Competition Bill? **bit.ly/digitalcombillexp**
- 'Outstanding work': IIT-M team makes mineral nanoparticles with water **bit.ly/nanoparticlesiitm**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

PVR INOX | REX | NEXUS | ORION | VAISHNAVI | VEGA CITY | REGALIA | MARKETCITY | AURA | BHARTIYA | GT | SPIRIT | VR | UPTOWN | GLOBAL | FALCON CITY | MANTRI | LIDO | CENTRAL | GARUDA | YELAHANKA | SWAGATH | BROOKFIELD | SBR | MALL OF ASIA | NEIGHBOURHOOD | RMZ | TUMKUR | MYSORE GARUDA-FORUM-SATYAM-CENTRO | MANGALORE | MANIPAL | HUBLI | DHARWAD | BELGAUM | GULBARGA
Cinépolis | RMM | ETA | SHANTINIKETAN | LULU | SJR | ORION EAST | MANGALORE | HUBLI | GOPALAN | ARCADE | LEGACY | GRAND | SIGNATURE | INNOVATION
INOX MARATHHALLI | KIN CINEMAS SEEGEHALLI | CINEPHILE HSR LAYOUT | ROCKLINE JALAHALLI | MIRAJ SUNKADAKATTE GULBARGA | RAICHUR
UTHARAHALLI | DRC MYSORE | VISION CINEMAS MYSORE | GRAND CINEMAS HOSUR | SAPNA BIDAR
Cine GALAXY SURATKAL | MOVIETIME DAVANGERE BALLARY | KAPEEL BELGAUM | MAGNUM CINEMAS NIPPANI | Bharath Cinemas MANGALORE | MANIPAL | KUNDAPUR | PADUBIDRE | PUTTUR | SUBRAHMANYA GROUPS
MUKUNDA MARUTI SEVANAGAR (TAMIL) | Nampige (TAMIL) | ANUPAMA - DTS (10-30, 1-30, 4-30, 7-30) (TELUGU) | NARTAKI 4K 7.1 (HINDI) | SANDHYA MADIWALA (TAMIL) | MANASA KONANAKUNTE (TAMIL) | BRUNDHA HONGASANDRA (TAMIL)
Swagath SHANKARNAG M.G.ROAD (TAMIL & HINDI) | Swagath POORNIMA J.C.ROAD (TAMIL) | AVRUTH THEATRE (TAMIL) | RENUKA PRASANNA (TAMIL & TELUGU) | PUSHPANJALI BN PURA (TAMIL) | VIJAYALAKSHMI GARUDACHARPALYA (TAMIL & TELUGU) | SHREE LAKSHMI RAMAMURTHY NAGAR (TAMIL)
RAVI (TAMIL & TELUGU) | VCINEMAS RAMMURTHYNAGAR (TELUGU) | VICTORY CINEMA (TAMIL) | SRI VINAYAKA MARATHAHALLI (TELUGU) | SRI RADHA KRISHNA RT NAGAR (TAMIL & TELUGU) | VENKATESHWARA KRISHNARAJAPURA (TELUGU) | VEERESH CINEMAS (TELUGU)

TAMIL VERSION : AGARA TIRUMALA | MAGADI ROAD ANJAN | SRI RAMPURA ARUNA | SANJAYNAGAR VAIBHAV | KATTRIGUPPE KAMAKYA | KONAPPANA AGRAHARA VENKATESHWARA | CHIKKALASANDRA BALAJI | BOMMANAHALLI KRISHNA | RAJGOPALNAGAR MARUTI | AVALAHALLI VENKATESHWARA | SINGAPURA VAINIDHI | VANNARPET BALAJI | SULTANPALYA PUSHPANJALI | SUNKADAKATTE MOHAN | GOLLARAHATTI VENKATESHWARA | VARTHUR VINAYAKA | NAGAWARA PRUTHVI | PEENYA BHARATHI | KAMALANGAR VEERABHADRESHWARA | YELAHANKA PRAKASH | TAVAREKERE LAKSHMI | KODIGEHALLI RAJ MURALI | KENGERI VENKATESHWARA | GOTTIGERE LAKSHMI | GOWDANPALYA SRINIVASA | DOMMASANDRA BALAJI | KADIRENAHALLI MAHADESHWARA | J.P.NAGAR SIDDHALINGESHWARA | LAGGERE AAKASH | EJIPURA RAVI | KADUGUDI SRINIVASA | KANAKAPUR ARKAVATHI | TUMKUR MARUTI | CHANNAPATNA SHIVANANDA | MAGADI BALAJI | RAMNAGAR SHAAN | TURUVEKERE POORNIMA | K.G.F OLYMPIA | MYSORE SANGAM | MYSORE GAYATRI | MYSORE TIBBADEVI | MANDYA GURUSHREE | HASSAN SAHYADRI | K.R.NAGAR VENKATESHWAR | GUNDLUPET VENKATESHWARA | ARSIKERE SADHANA | BILIKERE LAKSHMI | NANJANGUD SHARADA | MADDUR MAHAVEERA | CHAMARAJNAGAR BASAVESHWARA | K.M.DODDI SUMA | BELLUR CROSS MARUTI | KOLLEGELA KRISHNA | PIRIYAPATNA SHARADA | BANNUR SOMESHWARA | MALAVALLI MAHALAKSHMI | RAMAPURA VEERABHADRESHWARA | CHANNARAYAPATNA DHANALAKSHMI | PANDAVAPURA LAKSHMI | HULLAHALLI YAJAMANA | K.R.PET KJB | KUSHALNAGAR COORG | SIDDHAPURA WOODLAND | HUNSUR LEELA | SHANIVARSANTHE YASHASWINI | SHIMOGA MALLIKARJUNA | BHADRAVATHI SHANKAR | KADUR VIJAYALAKSHMI | MANGALORE RAMAKANTHI | CHIKMAGALUR NAGALAKSHMI | UDUPI ALANKAR | PLANET KARKALA | BELTHANGADI BHARATH | DAVANGERE TRISHUL | HIRIYUR SRISHAILA
TELUGU VERSION : AGARA TIRUMALA | KATTRIGUPPE KAMAKYA | KONAPPANA AGRAHARA VENKATESHWARA | CHIKKALASANDRA BALAJI | VARTHUR VINAYAKA | KODIGEHALLI RAJ MURALI | S.G.PALYA SRINIVASA | KADUGUDI SRINIVASA | KOLAR BHAVANI | DODDABALLAPUR VAIBHAV | ANEKAL SLN | PAVAGADA SRINIVASA PRASANNA | CHIKBALLAPUR KRISHNA | GAURIBIDANUR SHANKAR | SHIRA BHAGYALAKSHMI | TUMKUR MARUTI | TIPTUR GANESH | ATTIBELE GAURISHANKAR | HESARUGHATTA SLN | MADHUGIRI SHANTALA | MALUR BENAKA | KUNIGAL PADMA | KORATAGERE SHIVAGANGA | MULABAGILU NATARAJ | VIJAYAPURA SANGAMESHWARA | MYSORE PADMA | HASSAN S.B.G | SHIKARIPURA MAHANTESH | BYNDOOR SHANKAR | DHARWAD SANGAM | BIJAPUR SRI LAKSHMI | BELGAUM CHITRA | RANIBENNUR SHANKAR | GADAG SHAKTHI | BAGALKOT VASAVI | ILKAL NARAYANA | SINDHAGI VINAYAKA | LAKSHMESHWARA RAVI | TALIKOTE AMEER | ATHANI MURUGENDRA | BADAMI MAHAKOOTESHWARA | DAVANGERE TRISHUL | CHALLAKERE BALAJI | CHITRADURGA BASAVESHWARA | SHAHPURA JAYASHREE | GULBARGA SANGAM
HINDI VERSION : SANJAYNAGAR VAIBHAV | J.P.NAGAR SIDDHALINGESHWARA | TAVAREKERE BALAJI | SHIRALI VENKATESHWARA | HUBLI APSARA | DHARWAD SANGAM | BELGAUM CHITRA | BELGAUM SWAROOP | SIRSI NATARAJ | ANKALI MAYURA | GOKAK LAKSHMI | BANAHATTI VAIBHAV | MALINGAPURA ASHTAGI | BILAGI SRINIVASA | HAROGERE CHANDRAMA | JAMAKHANDI SUVARNA | MUDHOL SURYAVANSHI

ENTIRE KARNATAKA RELEASE BY ROMEO PICTURES SUB DISTRIBUTOR (SINGLE SCREENS) : SWAGATH ENTERPRISES

Liquor distribution at event: BJP expels leader

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP on Tuesday expelled its Nelamangala Assembly constituency unit president, Jagadish Chowdhary, in connection with the distribution of liquor at a programme that had been organised on Sunday, to felicitate the election of former Minister K. Sudhakar as MP from Chickballapur Lok Sabha seat.

"Distribution of liquor at the programme is against the party's ideology and it violates the party discipline. The episode that has been reported in media has embarrassed the party," said a communique from the Bengaluru Rural district unit president Ramakrishna to Mr. Chowdhary. The party communique said Mr. Chowdhary had been expelled for six years.

The BJP suffered an embarrassment as a video and pictures of the distribution of liquor had gone viral on social media. The organisers had obtained a temporary CL4 licence from Excise officials and it is being said that about 400 people had been given liquor at the venue.

Taking exception to the distribution of liquor at a party programme, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is also president of the KPCC, had demanded that BJP national president J.P. Nadda explain how his party allowed liquor to distributed to its workers.

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BJP, JD(S) see 'hatred for Rama' in proposal to rename district

They also allege it is a ploy to indulge in 'real estate business'; accusing Shivakumar of hoodwinking people of Bengaluru in the name of building Brand Bengaluru, Ashok says the Dy. CM is now trying a similar trick on the people of Ramanagara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A delegation led by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar submitting a proposal to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to rename Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South, on Tuesday.

The proposal by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to rename Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South, especially ahead of the Channapatna byelection, has ruffled the feathers of BJP-JD(S) combine whose erstwhile coalition government, led by the then Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, had carved out the district in 2007.

Taking exception to the proposal to rename Ramanagara district, the BJP has alleged that the "design of the Congress government smacks of hatred towards Lord Rama and the lure of real estate".

In a statement, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to specify if his leader Rahul Gandhi had "directed" him to remove the name Rama from Ramanagara district or if he wanted to indulge in real estate business in Ramanagara after the land row in Mysuru. Mr. Ashok asked Mr. Shivakumar to clarify if he was trying to change the district's name to settle scores in the wake of his brother getting defeated by the coalition in the Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha constituency that includes Ramanagara.

Accusing Mr. Shivakumar, who also holds Bengaluru City Development portfolio, of hoodwinking people of Bengaluru in the name of building 'Brand Bengaluru', he said the Deputy Chief Minister was now trying a similar trick on the people of Ramanagara. "Will a mere change in the name of the district lead to its development?" he wondered.

'Appeasement politics'

JD(S) Youth Wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy on Tuesday alleged that the reason behind renaming was part of "appeasement politics" and to help people in real estate.

"I do not know what is the hidden agenda in renaming the historical Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South. However, it is now no secret that Ramanagara is being renamed as part of appeasement politics. It is also a conspiracy to help make Ramanagara heaven for real estate agents and destroy the legacy of the district," he said on social media platform X. Incidentally, Mr. Nikhil Kumaraswamy, son of Mr. Kumaraswamy, Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel and JD(S) State president, unsuccessfully contested the 2023 Assembly election from Ramanagara.

Gig workers' Bill: Unions seek tweaks in representation on board, funding pattern

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Joint Committee of Trade Unions and United Food Delivery Partners' Union have submitted a memorandum to the Labour Department suggesting changes in the proposed Bill. FILE PHOTO

Suggesting changes to the proposed gig workers' Bill, likely to be introduced in the ensuing legislature session, trade unions in Karnataka have sought equal representation on the Gig Workers Welfare Board "in the true spirit and letter of tripartism". While the mode of raising funds for the welfare of gig workers is yet to be worked out, unions have sought not less than 1% and not more than 3% fee to be collected from every transaction to be paid by the consumer.

The composition of the board should be split equally among representatives of workers, aggregators, and the government, and that the proposed composition is lopsided in favour of the government, said a memorandum submitted to the Labour Department by the Joint Committee of Trade Unions (JCTU), an umbrella for eight trade unions, and the United Food Delivery Partners' Union on Tuesday.

For all stakeholders

The proposed Karnataka Platform-based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2024, has five IAS officers, two workers' representatives, two representatives from the aggregators, and one member from the civil society to be nominated by the government. "The civil society member to be nominated by the government again skews the board against worker representation," said the unions. The memorandum pointed out at the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board where there is equal representation to all the three stakeholders.

To ensure that the meetings of the board can be convened by the demand of members, the unions have said the board meetings should be convened upon a written request of one-fourth of the members instead of a written request of six members. "Otherwise, with the current composition, it may not be possible for the trade unions to force a meeting to be convened. We have also sought the meeting to be convened once in three months instead of the proposed six months. A recurring problem in the welfare board system is that executive decisions are taken by bypassing the board and ratification is done post facto. Therefore it is important for the board to have more powers, equal representation of stakeholders, and meet regularly," a trade union source said.

Other provisions

To ensure the rights of the gig workers are protected, trade unions have urged the government to include provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; Minimum Wages Act, 1948; Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, and Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. They have also suggested changes in the registration of gig workers from the proposed 60 days to 15 days to quickly facilitate onboarding of gig workers as they are vulnerable to various occupational hazards such as poor working conditions, vehicular traffic, and inclement weather. Even the aggregator should be given 30 days time instead of 60 to register with the board, the memorandum said.

High Court rejects 'motivated' PIL petition seeking action against State BJP leaders for 'hate speeches'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday dismissed a PIL petition filed in 2022 seeking direction to the authorities for initiating action against some BJP leaders and activists by terming that their speeches/statements reported in various media amounted to "hate speeches" for disturbing harmony in society.

'Too general'

"The petition is too general to be countenanced and the allegations lack authentication. The filing of the petition smacks of motives other than public interest. The petition filed with political or communal motive cannot be entertained," the court said.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind passed the order while declining to entertain the petition filed by Mohammed Khaleelulla, a civil contractor and social activist from Nagamangala in Mandya district.

The petitioner had sought actions against BJP leaders K.S. Eshwarappa, M.P. Renukacharya, C.T. Ravi, Pratap Simha, Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, Shobha Karandlaje, and Tejasvi Surya, and activists Chakravarthy Sulibele, Pramod Muthalik, and Rishi Kumaraswamy based on their statements/speeches reported in the media.

Bitcoin scam: HC says invoking KCOCA against Sriki was illegal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a setback to the Special Investigating Team (SIT) probing the alleged bitcoin scam, the High Court of Karnataka has declared as illegal the action of invoking the Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes Act (KCOCA), 2000, against the hacker and prime accused Srikrishna Ramesh alias Sriki in the first case registered in 2017.

Pointing out that invoking the KCOCA violated a condition prescribed under Section 2(d) of the Act for invoking this law against the accused involved in criminal cases, the court quashed the sanction granted on May 20 by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police (CID) to the SIT to invoke Section 3 of the KCOCA against Sriki, 29, and another accused Robin Khandelwal, 35.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the order while allowing separate petitions filed by Sriki and Naresh Kumar Khandelwal, a resident of Bardhaman in West Bengal and father of Robin.

As per Section 2(d) of the KCOCA, the High Court said, the provision of this law could be invoked against the accused in a criminal case if they are allegedly found involved in "continuing unlawful activities" as defined in the Act.

For this purpose, Mr. Justice Krishna Kumar said, the Section 2(d) makes it clear that the provision of the KCOCA can be invoked against an accused person only if, as on the date of commission of the present alleged offence, minimum of two chargesheets were filed within the preceding period of 10 years from the date of commission of the present offence, and the trial court had taken cognisance of offences against him based on those chargesheets.

In Sriki's case, the High Court said, there was no chargesheet filed against him and the another case prior to registration of the bitcoin case on July 17, 2017. Hence, the SIT could not have invoked the provisions of the KCOCA taking into account four chargesheets filed against him subsequently, between 2021-24 in four criminal cases.

NCSC notice to State over 'diversion' of SC/ST sub-plan funds

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) on Tuesday issued a notice to the Karnataka government over allegations that it was utilising funds from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Sub-Plans for funding its five guarantees scheme.

In a notice issued to the Chief Secretary of Karnataka government, the NCSC said it was taking cognizance of newspaper reports on the allegations of "diversion" raised by the Opposition BJP in the State.

The Karnataka government last Friday decided to utilise funds allocated under the Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Scheduled Tribe Sub-Plan (SCSP-STSP) for implementing five guarantees, specifically for providing benefits to members of SC and ST communities.

While the Congress government has argued that this is not a diversion because the funds will still be used for people from SC and ST communities, the Dalit organisations and the Opposition have argued that it still counted as "diversion".

The commission has sought a detailed report on the issue within seven days of receiving the notice.

SIT questions Nagendra, Daddal in Valmiki corporation scam case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) that is probing the alleged scam in the Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation on Tuesday questioned the former Minister B. Nagendra and chairperson of the corporation Basanagouda Daddal.

The SIT questioned the two in alleged unauthorised transfer of ₹187 crore belonging to the corporation. The alleged scam came to light after an account superintendent, Chandrasekharan P., killed himself on May 26 writing a note accusing several people of forcing him to transfer the money.

Following a furore, Mr. Nagendra resigned as Scheduled Tribes Welfare, Youth Empowerment and Sports Minister June 6. The State government formed the SIT to probe the matter.

CM: Distribute mosquito nets to slum residents to contain dengue cases

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To contain the spread of dengue, the State government has instructed Deputy Commissioners, Chief Executive Officers, and District Health Officers to distribute mosquito nets to residents residing in slums.

Winding up a two-day meeting with senior officials of districts and secretaries of various departments on Tuesday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said 7,362 dengue cases have been reported so far and there are 303 active cases. The disease has claimed seven lives so far in the State.

The Chief Minister directed the senior officials of the district, specifically the health officials, to take steps for the distribution of mosquito nets for slum-dwellers across the State. However, there was no need to declare a "health emergency" in the State, he said.

Noting the increase in the number of road accidents, the Chief Minister told officials to identify hotspots and increase trauma centres network in coordination with Revenue, Police and Transport departments and urban local bodies. The district-level road safety committees too should take steps to ensure smooth movement of vehicles, he said.

'Caste census report will be placed before Cabinet'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said that the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey, popularly known as caste census, would be placed before the Cabinet. "I have not still seen the report. It needs to come to the Cabinet for a discussion. I will place it before the Cabinet," Mr. Siddaramaiah told reporters. The Chief Minister received the report from the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes before the Lok Sabha election.

One more exam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The meeting held by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah decided to increase the supplementary examinations for failed Class 10 students from two to three. The State recorded a pass percentage of 73.4 in 2024, a 10 percentage points drop from 2023 and a 15 percentage points drop when compared with 2022.

Government of Karnataka
Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms (e-Governance)
SAKALA MISSION
1st Gate, 1st Floor, Room No. 124, M.S. Building, Bengaluru-560001.
Website: www.sakala.kar.nic.in Phone: 080-22032857, 22032899
Email: aosakala@karnataka.gov.in

No. DPAREGOV/2024-25/SE0026 Date: 08.07.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

For the **"implementation of Karnataka Sakala Services Act, 2011 and (Amendment) Act, 2014"** in order to **provide call centre services** through e-Procurement mode through website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** of e-Governance department, tenders are invited from qualified bidders in two parts namely (i) Technical bid, (ii) Financial Bid.

The Tender process is as follows:

Bid validity period (in days)	**180**
Date of commencement of uploading tender form	**08.07.2024**
Date of Pre-bid meeting	**15.07.2024, 3.00 pm** **Venue : Sakala Head Office** For further details: **Email: aosakala@gmail.com** **Ph: 080-22032857**
Last date & time for receipt of tender related Queries / Clarification	**05.08.2024 upto 17:30 hours**
Last date & time for receipt of tender	**08.08.2024 upto 17:30 hours**
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid	**12.08.2024, 12:00 hours**
Date & time for opening of Financial Bid	**21.08.2024, 12:00 hours.**

For further information visit: **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Administrative Officer & Tender Inviting Authority
Sakala Mission, DPAR(e-Governance)

DIPR/CP/YC/847/2024-25

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Born 21-05-1937 Death 07-07-2024

Rajam S Narayanan
(Wife of Late Capt. P.S. Sankaranarayanan)
(Mother of Late Dr. Padma Shankar)
It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved mother. An exceptional human being, she leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, and love. She will be missed by one and all.
Mourned by: Prema Ravi, Saraswathi Seshadri (Daughters), Sons in Law, Grand Children
Ph. 94447 60924

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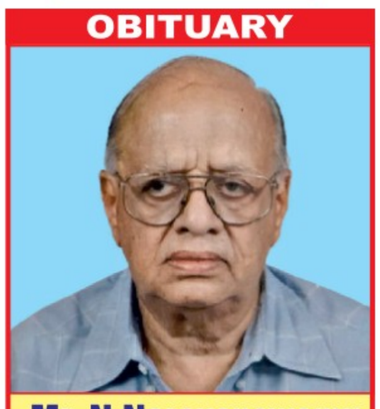
DEATH

OBITUARY



Mr. N Narayanswamy
29.11.1933 - 9.7.2024
ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो
देवस्य धीमहि धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ।।
न जायते म्रियते वा कदाचि-
न्नायं भूत्वा भविता वा न भूयः ।
अजो नित्यः शाश्वतोऽयं पुराणो
न हन्यते हन्यमाने शरीरे ॥
Bhagavadgita 2.20
"For the soul there is neither birth nor death at any time. He has not come into being, does not come into being, and will not come into being. He is unborn, eternal, ever-existing and primeval. He does not die even when the body dies".
He will be missed by all
He is survived by
Mrs. Sita Narayanswamy
Prithvi and Anita Narayan
Hamsa and Sunil Aiyer
Grandchildren-Supriya and Anish, Sujay, Nina and Mira
Phone : 7350012325

‘Cybercrime complaints are so many that we set up dedicated helpline – 1930’

The target of cybercrime is anyone who is using a mobile phone and other electronic devices, which is basically everyone these days, says Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru

INTERVIEW

Kuldeep Kumar Jain

Dhiraj Shetty
BENGALURU

‘In recent times, you hear of courier fraud where people call you claiming to be from a particular investigation unit, specially a crime branch.’ ILLUSTRATION BY SATHEESH VELLINEZHI

With a number of cybercrime cases increasing with each passing day, *The Hindu* spoke to Kuldeep Kumar Jain, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru, who has experience solving such cases.

Mr. Jain is one among eight DCPs appointed by the government to enhance the capability of the city police in handling cybercrime and tackling narcotics cases effectively. He is part of Special Investigation Teams (SIT) tasked by city police commissioner to supervise specific cases assigned to them and for speedy disposal.

How has cybercrime changed since the first case?
Initially, it was only based on data... misusing it to gain an advantage. But as people started using debit and credit cards, and other such things, OTP fraud became rampant.

A criminal would pose as a bank official, call you on the pretext of information verification. During the course of the conversation, you are persuaded to share an OTP that would have come to your mobile phone. This OTP would be used to steal money from your account.

Then, it escalated to skimming, job fraud, matrimonial scams, targetting people buying and selling products online. Then, it slowly evolved into sextortion, where your images would be morphed, and you would be forced into paying money to keep them from going public.

Then came investment frauds where you are added to a Whatsapp group where all the people are fake and you end up investing. Everything is fraudulent.

In recent times, you hear of courier fraud where people call you claiming to be from a particular investigation unit, specially crime branch. They convince you that you have smuggled narcotics or some other contraband, and face arrest. You are told to share bank account details so that the ‘investigation officer’ can confirm your innocence. In the bargain, money is stolen from your account.

Do cyber criminals target a certain section of the population?
To my understanding, it is based on your data. When they have some genuine data of yours, like may be an Aadhaar number or your phone number, or your exact name and address, based on that they strike a conversation... You might be lured into taking up some tempting offer or told to click some link after being persuaded that it is important or helpful. But, such offers or links would actually be a trap, which if you enter, you end up losing your money.

Kuldeep Kumar Jain.

People keep getting such random calls or SMSes. We have to be very careful. The target is anyone who is using a mobile phone and other electronic devices, which is basically everyone these days.

How do cyber criminals get information about their victims?
These days, we give our Aadhaar card, or passport, or PAN card, or driver’s licence, as ID proof. When you have given a particular ID proof at some place, we do not know how that ID proof is used, or whether it is used for the purpose it was sought. Our investigation has revealed that cyber criminals obtain this information from people who handle such data.

These days, you go to any departmental store, or to buy anything, you have to give your mobile number to get an OTP. Every day, we are giving our personal information. That is how cyber criminals get your information. So, we have to be very careful since we have shared our information willingly at multiple places.

A piece of advice: Wherever you give your documents, basically a photocopy of your documents, you should specifically self-attest them. You should specifically mention that this document is meant for this purpose. So, if you write across that document that this document is meant for this purpose only, then the chances of that document getting used multiple times is nullified.

Is it more difficult to solve a cybercrime as compared to other crimes?
Yes, 100% it is more difficult to solve a cybercrime. The reason is that the culprits use digital technology to mask their identity. Second thing is, these scams involve multiple persons working in silos.

Someone sitting in India uses an account number in the state of Kerala to commit a fraud on a person staying in Jharkhand, Gujarat or Karnataka, or somewhere else.

Multiple people are involved. No one knows the next person in the link. One set of people only collect information. Another set of people will pass on that information to the next level for which they will get a commission, or salary. The information is fed to another person through people who are staying outside India. Using this information, money is transacted out of India.

If we consider cybercrime as a 5-storey building, we only cross maybe level 1 in 5% of the cases. In less than 3% of cases have we gone to level 2 or 3.

One of the questions that victims generally ask is, if my money has been removed from my account, there is some sort of digital footprint. So, why is it difficult to get my money back?
No doubt there is a digital footprint. But, when we trace the account holder, they claim that they do not operate the account at all. They say: ‘Some 6 months back, I had given my account login to somebody for some kind of investment. He gave me some money, and I have forgotten about it.’ This is a common element in cyber crimes, which leaves us at a dead end.

When we check IP logs, we learn that the transaction was carried out outside India.

So, you are right that there is a digital footprint, but we are unable to track down the person who actually carried out the transaction.

We have got some success where somebody withdraws money physically from accounts. But, even in such cases, the person would have acted on behalf of someone else who might have paid a commission for such withdrawals. The next person in the chain is not traceable.

Cyber criminals persuade gullible people into opening a bank account. Once that bank account is opened, the whole banking kit is taken by a middleman who then hands the same over to another person, and so on. Such account details are sold in the black market or on the dark web.

In some cases, bank officials have given account information to cyber criminals. In some cases, multiple accounts have been opened at different places using one ID card. Service providers have given multiple SIM cards using just one ID card.

Is it not possible to trace cyber criminals with their phone numbers?
Most of the phone calls are VoIP calls. VoIP is Voice over Internet Protocol. These are generated through the internet. The IP logs reveal that they originated outside India, and the place of origin cannot be traced easily.

In cases where an actual SIM is used, the number is used for some time before being switched off. The address linked to that number would be different from the actual location from where the call was made. That is because multiple SIM cards are issued using a single ID. The person whose ID was used may not even be aware of the multiple SIM cards.

In case of Whatsapp calls, when you call the same number on the mobile phone network to trace its location, that number would be switched off. That is because once a number is activated on Whatsapp, you can throw the SIM and use the WhatsApp through wifi.

So, basically the cyber criminal is not using that number at all. He is just using Whatsapp.

Do you get co-operation from police in other States?
Actually, tracking down the location of cyber criminals is a bigger challenge than coordination among police of different States.

What should a victim of cybercrime do to help police solve the crime?
Immediately dial 1930 to give your complaint. Then, go to the nearest police station to follow up. The golden hour concept - followed in accident cases - applies in cybercrime too. The moment you call 1930, we will write to the bank and see to it that the account is immediately blocked. That way, your money does not go any further, and out of your reach.

Is it possible to get the money back?
If you report within the golden hour, there is a high probability that your money would not have gone to the next account. We can try to block the account so that your money cannot go to any other account.

The victim can move court to get their money back. If the crime is reported to the police immediately and the account is frozen on the same day, the next day, you can approach a court. Within the next 2-3 working days, you can get the money back.

Why do you have a separate number for cybercrime (1930)?
The evolving nature of cybercrime and the sheer volume of cybercrime necessitated a dedicated helpline. 112 is a national number for any kind of emergency where a generalist will attend your call and try to assess your problem before trying to address to it, or connect to the relevant department or unit. But in 1930, we have a team dedicated to acting as per the needs of cybercrime.

Do you have a separate criteria while selecting personnel for the cybercrime unit?
Unlike in a normal police station, there is no general kind of work in a cybercrime police station. In a normal police station, regardless of your interest or qualification, you are supposed to do all the work, which is general in nature. But for a cybercrime police station, we select personnel who are updated on technical advancements.

A cybercrime police station has two sets of people. One set works diligently indoors because you have to communicate with multiple agencies, banks and service providers, you have to write letters and communicate with them immediately...on the same day, within minutes of a crime, and follow up. Then, there is another set of personnel. They work on-the-field based on the technical evidence what we gather.

E-autos to empower women and LGBTQ+ individuals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Herbalife, a health and wellness company and community, in partnership with Shishu Mandir, recently launched the “Eco-Wheels Women’s Initiative” at an event held in Bengaluru. The initiative aims to support marginalised women by providing opportunities for economic independence and skill development.

Herbalife has sponsored a total of 115 e-autos to empower women and LGBTQ+ individuals with economic opportunities, skills development, and leadership roles.

Beyond the vehicles, Herbalife has also sponsored the training of 50 female drivers, aiding them in obtaining their licences, and supported schoolchildren with essential items to alleviate financial strains, said a press release.

The autos were presented by Ajay Khanna, the Managing Director of Heartlife India. Manjula Aravind Limbavali, MLA of Mahadevapura Constituency, and Dr. Hella Mundhra, Founder of Shishu Mandir, were also present at the event.

Ajay Khanna, Managing Director of Herbalife India, said, “The Eco Wheels Women initiative stands out for its dual focus, as it empowers women and embraces environmental sustainability. We are committed to diversity and inclusivity, and this project enables over 115 women and LGBTQ individuals, providing them with economic stability and independence.”

By introducing electric autos for last-mile connectivity, the aim is to further emissions and noise pollution, aligning with government efforts to promote electric vehicles, he further added.

Since the programme’s inception on April 13, 2022, eight batches of e-auto drivers have been trained, with each batch growing in number.

Bengaluru-based CA barred from being appointed as statutory auditor

The MCA had initiated an investigation into the affairs of the Super Royal Holiday after it was found that it indulged in the deposit and withdrawal of huge sums

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Bengaluru Bench, has prohibited a city-based chartered accountant (CA) from being appointed as a statutory auditory of any company for a period of five years for “committing fraud along with the company by not reporting the discrepancies and fraudulent transactions of the company”

The High Court of Karnataka

Section 143
Ramaiah Nataraja, Proprietor of M/s. Nataraja & Co. Chartered Accountants, Bengaluru, has also failed to inquire about the fraudulent functioning the company, M/s Super Royal Holiday India Private Limited, which is against the prudent business practice under Section 143 (Powers and duties of auditors and auditing standards) of the Companies Act, 2013, said the NCLT.

A bench comprising K. Biswal (member-judicial) and Manoj Kumar Subey (member-technical), passed the order while disposing of a petition filed by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for baring the CA for five years.

The MCA had initiated an investigation into the affairs of the Super Royal Holiday after it was found that it indulged in the deposit and withdrawal of huge sums through bank accounts post-demonetisation.

The multiple investigations had disclosed that the company, in the garb of conducting tour packages, was collecting deposits from its nearly two lakh customers in the name of membership fees and was not spending any amount from this amount for providing any tour services, for which the customers had to pay separately.

Fradulent activities
The investigations have revealed that the CA had colluded with the company by allowing them to perpetuate the fraudulent activities.

While the MCA had already initiated process of liquidation of the company as per the law, it had sought action against the CA under Section 140(5) of the Act as he had failed to discharge his duties being a statutory auditor of the company.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 10, 1974

House Sites for Landless: Call for Speedy Action

Mangalore, July 9: The need for speedy action by coordinated efforts by various departments concerned in marking and allotment of house sites to landless persons in South Kanara was stressed here to-day by the Revenue Minister, Mr. Hutchamasthi Gowda.

Addressing a special session of the District Development Council, he said, though on paper about 35,000 housites had been granted in South Kanara, more than 25,000 were pending with the Forest Department and only 3,200 had been handed over to beneficiaries.

Prospects of new projects in S.C. Railway dim

Hubli, July 9: The prospects of taking up any new project in the South Central Railway are dim, according to its General Manager, Mr. P.N. Kaul. Replying to questions, at a press conference here to-day Mr. Kaul said when there was no money for taking up the work on the sanctioned project, the question of suggesting new projects did not arise. The work of laying a new line, including partial conversion of the track between Bibinagar and Nadikudi in Andhra Pradesh was the only sanctioned project the South Central Railway had got and the work on the same could not be taken for want of money.

Five glorious decades of celebrating Kannada literature

Celebrating its 57th anniversary this year, Sapna Book House, has become a landmark space in Karnataka, actively promoting Kannada literature and culture

Shilpa Anandraj

Everything books (clockwise from above) A file photo of Shri Veerendra Heggade, G Venkatasubbaiah and actor Ramesh Aravind, launching 57 books at Sapna to celebrate the 57th Kannada Rajyotsava (2013), a section of the book shop and Nitin Shah. MURALI KUMAR K / SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Think publishing houses and the first name that probably pops up in your mind is Sapna Book House. Their outlet in Gandhinagar today is considered a landmark store in Bengaluru, with the three-storey building housing some of the best Kannada literature, English and Kannada textbooks for competitive and medical studies, stationery, school supplies and more.

Sapna was founded in 1967 by Suresh Shah, a Gujarati who came to Bengaluru from Mumbai.

He set up a small bookshop in Gandhinagar, which today has 10 branches across Bengaluru, 10 within in Karnataka including Mangaluru, Hubballi, Dharwad, Belgaum and Kalburgi, and outlets in Coimbatore and Erode.

"To cater to the needs of the online shopper, we started our online store, where we provide all kinds of books," says Nitin Shah, the current Managing Director, Sapna Books and the son of the founder, Suresh Shah. "This vertical is taken care of by my son, Nijesh Shah."

Nitin says his parents were struggling financially. "We lived in a chawl. My father would sleep in the RSS gymkhana at nights. He could not pursue his studies post class 10. He joined a company that was into book distribution. He worked hard and was promoted and transferred to Chennai, where they opened a branch called Pocket Book Distribution Company. After a short stint there, he was posted in Bengaluru. That is how we landed in this city."

The family, Nitin says, has lived in Bengaluru Central ever since.

"It was when we moved to Bengaluru that my mother, Bhanumati, suggested that my father do something on his own, something, which would not need a huge capital investment. That is how the first bookshop was opened in 1967."

There were two reasons for the 40 square-foot bookshop, being called Sapna, Nitin says: "My parents had two dreams, to have a daughter, and to start something on their own." Nitin completed his education in Bengaluru's government schools and graduated from MES College, Malleswaram.

"I had turned 20 and completed my studies when my father asked me to join the family business. Unlike today, where children choose their careers, we did not have that option. My father asked and I followed."

The USP of Sapna Book House is that though it is founded and run by a non-Kannadiga family, it has been promoting Kannada books, authors and even become a springboard for debut authors from rural areas.

"Becoming a Kannada publishing house happened by accident. I met the Jnanpith Award winning author, Shivram Karanth, in the early days of my career in Sapna. He asked me if we were publishing books as well. At that time we had helped a few friends by publishing their books, nothing on a professional level. Karanthji asked me if we would publish his books and if so, he would publish only with us. That is how we forayed into publishing."

> It was when we moved to Bengaluru that my mother, Bhanumati, suggested that my father do something on his own, something, which would not need a huge capital investment. That is how the first bookshop was opened in 1967
>
> **NITIN SHAH**
> MD, Sapna Book House

Publishing is outsourced, Nitin says. "We have four printers who publish exclusively for us. Today we publish around 200 new titles every year and reprints of around 500 to 600 books."

K Shivarama Karanth, Chandrashekara Kambara, Beechi, Aa Na Kru, Javaregowda, MM Kalaburagi, M Chidanandamurthy, KS Nissar Ahamed, GS Shivarudrappa, Sudhamurty are some of the authors who have been associated with Sapna for decades.

Sapna Book House also publishes English-to-Kannada translations. Publishing translations from Kannada to English, is a decision left to the author Nitin says. "Sudha Murthy gets her books translated to English, Marathi and other languages. Publishing in English comes with a few hiccups, so we steer clear of it."

Karnataka Rajyotsava Award for Kannada books Publication, Best Book Seller Award By Kannada Pustaka Pradhikara, Best Book Seller Award for South India, Distinguished Book Seller Award from the Federation of Publishers Association in India New Delhi, Distinguished Publisher Award from Federation of Educational Publishers, New Delhi and Limca Book of Records as India's Largest book mall are some of the awards Nitin has been conferred with.

Today Sapna houses around 7,000 plus titles in Kannada, 600 plus titles in college textbooks. Though they do not publish English books, they do have a wing that promotes self publishing in every language. "Some people say self publishing does not work. What we do here is we buy back the books from the author and sell them in our stores and platform. We look at a minimum printing of 200 copies, which are bought back from the author and then sold."

Sapna Book House started off by selling popular English fiction titles and dictionaries. "We used to sell James Hadley Chase, and magazines. My father had good business acumen. And soon with books, he sold lottery tickets. It was a small side business and fortunately, for us, the very first Karnataka State Government's lottery ticket won was sold by us. We got a commission of one lakh rupees without any tax deductions. My father bought a house with that money. The remaining money was invested in a bigger shop."

Being a family business, everyone chipped in, Nitin says. "My mother would be at the shop helping my father. We too would reach the shop after school and help around till we downed the shutters. It was a constant struggle, yet, it was a good life. It is lessons learnt then that have taught me the value of money, trained me to be better equipped to face the challenges of the world."

Like most bookshops, Sapna too hosts launches and readings. "Anything to do with agriculture, women empowerment, health, humour and self development do well. Interacting with people and children at such events gives you an understanding of what works and what does not."

Every year, to celebrate Kannada Rajyotsava, Sapna Book House publishes the number of books to commemorate the number of years of the Rajyotsava.

"We do this every November. This is the 68th Rajyotsava year, so we will publish 68 books in November."

Seminars on books, Pustaka Suggi (anniversary celebration with offers), Sankranti Kavigosti, Ugadi Kathasangama and Back to School for children are some of Nitin's ideas and take place regularly at Sapna.

Till date celebrities including Kamal Hassan, Ramesh Aravind, Sapthami Gowda, Aamir Khan, Kabir Bedi and Shashi Tharoor have visited the bookstore as part of events.

An avid reader himself, Nitin says he reads in English, Hindi, Kannada and Gujarati.

EATING OUT

Praveen Sudevan

Ouro SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

European flavours meet Mexico's

European cuisine is about elegance. Think creamy French sauces, melt-in-your-mouth pastas, and precisely seasoned roasts. On the other hand, Mexican food is fiery – a fiesta of spicy salsas, smoky chillies, and bold citrusy flavours. Ouro, on Bengaluru's Brigade Road, attempts this culinary fusion.

According to Ouro's General Manager, Vinay Vittal Hegde, the idea for this unique fusion was born out of a desire for innovation. "We wanted to craft a menu wherein we take European and Mexican influences and create something entirely our own."

Vinay further explains, "We understand the importance of catering to the local taste palate. So, we aren't merely introducing these unique dishes like birria lamb, a classic Mexican street food. We are elevating it with a modern twist and adapting it to the Indian palate. The idea is to make it familiar and enjoyable for everyone."

Before we dive into the menu, let us take a moment to appreciate Ouro's terrace-top ambience. The afternoon light from the milky white roof bathed the place in a warm glow. The modern décor had comfortable seating, with wall art that seemed to say, "We're sophisticated, but not too stuffy."

The Pulp Friction mocktail lived up to its name. Bursting with fresh orange juice and playful pulp, it is balanced by fragrant basil and a hint of orange blossom water.

For a Quentin Tarantino fan, anything with *Pulp Fiction* in the title is an instant win.

Next, we ventured into uncharted territory with a trio of starters: spicy crab thermidor, tenderloin carpaccio, and snapper ceviche. This was a first for someone who usually avoids raw dishes (what *is* the German word for the irrational fear of upset stomachs?). Despite the reluctance, the presentation of each dish was enticing.

Ouro
Hits: Ouro's signature creole boil, Rise of Ouro (dessert)
Misses: Tenderloin carpaccio and snapper ceviche
Price for two: ₹3,000

After the parade of impressive but slightly anxiety-inducing raw-meat dishes, our taste buds craved some comfort food.

Thankfully, the next set of appetisers arrived like a hug. The in and out prawns – house-spiced and promising a flavour explosion – did not disappoint. The candied nuts in the sauce added a quirky, sweet-and-savoury twist. The lobster dynamite was butter-poached and basked in hot sauce and truffle oil on a bed of crispy rice. The chicken scotch egg offered a comforting, classic pub-style dish with a twist.

Though the main course dishes were unfamiliar, a comforting warmth lingered.

The same is true for Ouro's signature creole boil, which strangely reminded us of a deconstructed South Indian *paya*. Another reason for this familiarity could be the locally sourced ingredients: "Apart from a Mexican chilli, we source everything locally."

Finally, our elaborate meal ended with Ouro's signature (and perhaps their most eventful) dessert: rise of Ouro. Imagine a golden white chocolate egg filled with Biscoff panna cotta perched on a crispy nest drizzled with Biscoff sauce.

The pièce de résistance? A wooden mallet to ceremoniously crack open the egg. This playful presentation is a hit among children and Instagrammers alike, encapsulating the spirit of Ouro: innovative, interactive, and interesting.

Ananya Uthaiah

Words to visuals

Script To Screen, an event organised by the Bengaluru International Short Film Festival (BISFF) team was held at Goethe Institut Max Mueller Bhavan, Bengaluru recently. The event featured the screening of five short films, produced as part of the earlier Literature to Script competition organised by BISFF. Out of the 48 scripts submitted for the competition, only five were chosen, and these were showcased at the event with its directors present.

Antaranga, directed by Udith Haritas, is a Kannada short film that explores themes of addiction and the effects of communication barriers on family dynamics. It poignantly depicts the challenges of growing up in a dysfunctional family, offering a raw and insightful examination of personal resilience and family relationships.

"This story intrigued me as it focused on the psychological differences within a family. The emotions stirred by the father's addiction and the impact it had on his family drew me to work on this project and be a part of its production," said Udith.

Making a point (From left) Anand Varadaraj (Artistic Director at BISFF) with Prasad Siddheshwar, Trupti Kulkarni, Vignesh Paramasivam and Udith Haritas. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Another Kannada production, *Neela Neela Teera* directed by Prasad Siddheshwar is a beautiful and heartfelt production and follows the journey of a hardworking man employed in a factory far way from home. The cinematography beautifully captures his love for sleep as a means to feel closer to his home, and becomes the focal point of his simple yet profound life. It evokes sympathy and a gentle sense of humour from the audience.

"The process of filmmaking itself is such that it makes you more humble. It saw me overlook personal comfort to allow for different experiences and has given me a chance to read and be exposed to more," said Prasad.

This event by BISFF gives budding directors a chance to work on their craft and exert significant creative freedom. "It is a great initiative and a wonderful opportunity for people like us who are just beginning to showcase our work," said Vignesh Paramasivam whose short film *Thunai* was screened at over 30 festivals and bagged 23 awards.

"The experience was amazing and interesting as I got to convert my script into an actual movie and this initative made it possible," said Trupti Kulkarni, director of one of the five shortlisted films, *How are you?* about a woman dealing with the abrupt departure of her partner. A surprising plot twist at the end redefines the audience's understanding of the situation, offering a fresh perspective on its experience.

Anas Shereef's Malayalam short film *Change* explores the challenges confronted by the LGBTQ+ community, highlighting their ongoing struggle for acceptance in society. The film delves deep into the complexities faced by individuals who often endure mockery and degradation in a world that still considers them outcasts.

"Currently, the short films are accessible only to those who attended our screenings. We do, however, plan to release them soon for a wider audience to enjoy," said Nikhil Bharadwaj, festival Coordinator at BISFF.

CITYBEATS

For a hot cuppa

ONGOING
Roastea has launched a monsoon menu with a wide range of speciality teas, coffees and gourmet treats. Apart from these beverages, one can enjoy handmade pasta, pizzas, hot chocolates, croissan'wich, Mumbai-style vada-pav and bowls of thukpa and khao suey. This menu will be available till July 15.
At Roastea, Koramangala. Call 7349062240.

Rainy day treats

ONGOING
Tiger Yaki has introduced a range of noodle bowls just for the rainy season. These bowls come in the options of tempura prawns, hibachi noodles with hot sauce, cottage cheese hibachi noodle, tender paneer and more. Tiger Yaki is into fusion food of Korean and Japanese cuisine.
Available at Tiger Yaki, Ashok Nagar

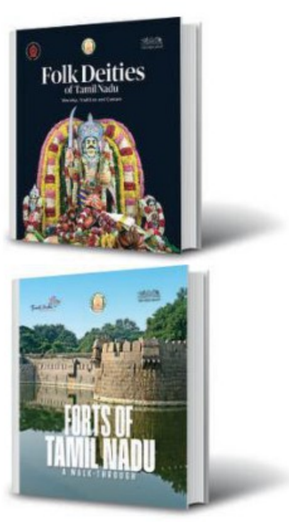
Beat street

JULY 14
Get ready for a rock concert, featuring the band Aattam Kalasamithi, a popular percussion band from Kerala. It was founded in 2001 in Kollannur Kaiparambu, Thrissur and features 24 Chenda artistes, who have also been a part of shows such as Sa RE GA MA PA. Tickets on Insider.in
At Nexus Koramangala Mall, 6pm

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin releases the coffee table books in the presence of State Ministers, Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson, THG Publishing Private Ltd., and others on Tuesday. M. VEDHAN

CM Stalin releases books on folk deities, forts of T.N.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday released two coffee-table books titled *Folk Deities of Tamil Nadu: Worship, Tradition and Custom* and *Forts of Tamil Nadu: A Walk-Through*, brought out by The Hindu Group of Publications in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu government's Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR and CE) Department and Tourism Department.

K. Ramachandran, Minister for Tourism, received the first copy of the book *Forts of Tamil Nadu: A Walk-Through* and P.K. Sekarbabu, Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, received the first copy of *Folk Deities of Tamil Nadu: Worship, Tradition and Custom* in the presence of Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited.

The book on folk deities, curated by B. Kolappan, *The Hindu*'s Senior Deputy Editor, focuses on the innumerable folk deities of Tamil Nadu. Some of these have a pan-regional appeal, while others are worshipped in a particular area or by certain communities and families. Tamil society worshipped heroes who laid down their lives for a common cause. '*Nadu Kal*' (hero stones) were erected to honour those heroes. Madurai Veeran, Kaathavarayan, and Muthupattan were raised to the status of deities for questioning existing norms of society and achieved martyrdom. Muneeswaran and Karuppasamy were worshipped as guardian deities, as per the book.

The book also documents the history, worship, tradition and customs of folk deities. Scholars and folklorists who wrote extensively about these deities have contributed to the book, which includes colourful photographs of folk deities from across Tamil Nadu. The book also has chapters on Sudalai Madan, Ayyanar, Ponnar-Sankar, Maasani Amman, Bannari Amman, and Angalamman. With many of these deities and their worship methods fast disappearing, the book is also very timely.

Another book *Forts of Tamil Nadu: A Walk-Through* curated by Sanjana Ganesh, Senior Sub Editor, *The Hindu*, documents the past glory of several forts in Tamil Nadu through essays that delve into their history. Writers from *The Hindu* and several freelance contributors attempted to chart the high points of history at various forts across the State. Many such structures have existed in the State for centuries. The sprawling grounds of these structures have been the site of political discourse, military prowess, foreign diplomacy and global trade.

The book attempts to deepen one's understanding of Tamil Nadu's contribution to the history of India, and features Fort St. George in Chennai as well as forts at Gingee, Sadras, Thirumayam, Alamparai, Vandavasi, Vellore, Sankagiri, Tharangambadi, Ranjankudi, Krishnagiri, Dindigul, Cuddalore, Tiruchi Rockfort, Rayakottai, Namakkal and Vattakottai. The book has photographs of these forts from today and some archival images showing the structures in their heyday.

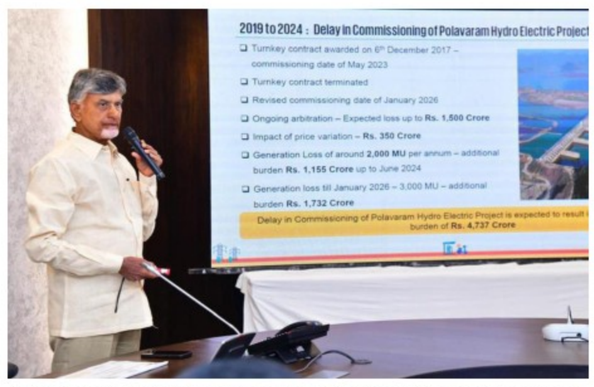
Shiv Das Meena, Chief Secretary; B. Chandra Mohan, Principal Secretary, Department of Tourism Culture and Religious Endowments; C. Samayamoorthy, Commissioner of Tourism and Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation and K.V. Muralidharan, Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department were among others present during the launch.

The books will soon be available for purchase.

Power sector in A.P. inherits loss of ₹1.29 lakh crore, says Naidu

Releasing a White Paper, the CM cites policy paralysis, unusual and hasty decisions, and abolition of PPAs by the YSRCP govt. as reasons for losses

The Hindu Bureau
AMARAVATI



N. Chandrababu Naidu giving a presentation on the power sector at the Secretariat in Amaravati on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Stating that the TDP-led NDA government inherited significant challenges in the power sector in terms of addressing the legacy losses of ₹1,29,503 crore created by the previous YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) government, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu said that he would bring back investors' confidence and rebuild "Brand Andhra Pradesh".

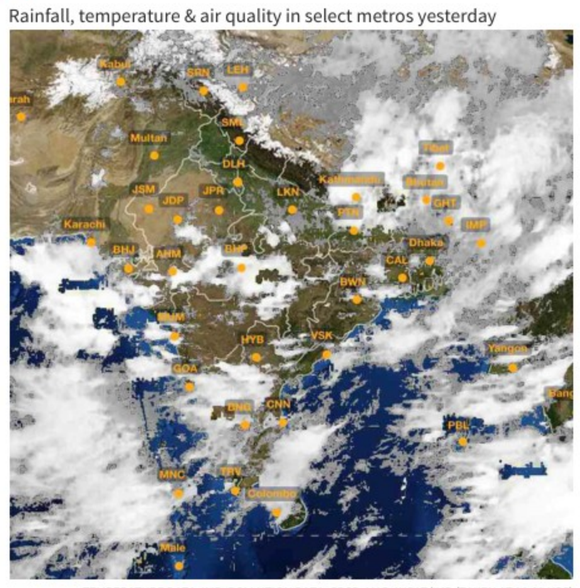
Releasing a White Paper on the status of Power Sector on Tuesday, Mr. Naidu lashed out at former CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for "putting unbearable power tariff burden" on domestic consumers.

Mr. Naidu explained that policy paralysis, unusual and hasty decisions, bad governance and abruptly abolishing power purchase agreements, were some of the major reasons for the huge losses. The total loss of ₹1,29,503 crore includes tariff burden on consumers of ₹32,166 crore, increase in debt of power utilities by ₹49,496 crore and losses of ₹47,741 crore due to inefficient governance.

Energy sales have increased from 54,555 MU in financial year 2018-19 to 69,113 MU in 2023-24, at a growth rate of 4.8% which is one of the lowest in the country. The per capita electricity consumption of Andhra Pradesh increased by only 123 kWh from 2018-19 to 2022-23 when compared to an increase of 146 kWh at national level. This was mainly due to steep tariff increase and re-imposing power cuts due to poor planning which has affected the economic growth (GSDP) of the State, the Chief Minister elaborated.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, east Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, east Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Konkan & Goa and coastal Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.6	27.2	Kozhikode	11	32.4	23.7
Ahmedabad	0.5	35.9	28.6	Kurnool	4	33.5	24.7
Aizawl	—	31.7	24.2	Lucknow	—	36.5	28.6
Allahabad	—	36.0	28.3	Madurai	—	39.6	25.7
Bengaluru	22	26.1	19.8	Mangaluru	99	29.4	22.4
Bhopal	9	34.3	24.0	Mumbai	154	29.3	24.3
Bhubaneswar	—	33.4	27.0	Mysuru	1	28.5	—
Chandigarh	—	37.1	27.4	New Delhi	—	33.2	27.2
Chennai	—	32.8	26.8	Patna	—	35.7	28.7
Coimbatore	—	31.6	22.4	Port Blair	15	30.5	23.2
Dehradun	8	33.8	24.4	Puducherry	—	32.8	27.0
Gangtok	22	21.0	18.6	Pune	31.5	29.2	21.7
Goa	88	26.4	23.4	Raipur	3	34.8	25.7
Guwahati	0.5	34.4	26.5	Ranchi	—	33.1	23.6
Hubballi	—	27.0	22.0	Shillong	—	25.9	18.0
Hyderabad	—	30.7	24.5	Shimla	4	24.8	16.6
Imphal	18	29.9	22.5	Srinagar	—	34.2	18.0
Jaipur	25.4	34.0	25.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.1	24.2
Kochi	15	28.0	23.0	Tiruchi	—	36.5	26.4
Kohima	7	24.4	18.4	Vijayawada	0.2	31.4	26.2
Kolkata	—	35.0	27.8	Visakhapatnam	0.2	32.4	27.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	..26	21	... 138	...128	
Bengaluru	.14	..36	85	 30	43	
Chennai	...3	9	62	 85	81	
Delhi	...5	..55	51	 59	...208	
Hyderabad	.12	..11	42	 58	88	
Kolkata	...9	..22	41	 31	30	
Lucknow	...9	..14	26	... 102	...107	
Mumbai	.20	..27	26	 43	50	
Pune	...5	..20	12	 56	90	
Visakhapatnam	.11	..58	14	 54	94	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 226 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Jigajinagi says he is 'deeply pained' at not being made Union Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Ramesh Jigajinagi FILE PHOTO

"I am deeply pained that I was not made a Minister in the Union Council of Ministers," Ramesh Jigajinagi, Vijayapura MP and BJP leader, said in Vijayapura on Tuesday.

"Being a Minister or not does not matter to me. But it matters to the people. Wherever I go, people ask me, why I am not made a Minister? Some people even say that I was not made a Minister because I am a Dalit. I am the only Dalit leader from South India who has won seven times. All the leaders from the State belong to the 'upper' castes. Does it mean that the Dalits did not vote for the BJP? What can I say? I can only say that it has left me deeply pained," he said.

He was speaking to reporters at the inauguration of his office.

"Long ago, my well-wishers had advised me against joining the BJP, as they felt that it was an anti-Dalit party. But I joined without much thought. People have blessed me to become the MP seven times. The people of my constituency are upset that I was not made a Minister. What can I tell them? I feel it is unfair to me," he said.

Zoo keeper narrowly escapes lion attack

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

An animal keeper in the Nehru Zoological Park escaped a gory fate on Monday while cleaning the lion enclosure. Syed Hussain entered the night house on Monday to clean it after sending the lioness into an adjacent enclosure. While he was busy cleaning, the animal returned. He managed to escape but it scratched his hand.

Reva varsity sets up STI Hub in Chickballapur

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

REVA Research Centre, the sponsored project funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, inaugurated its Science Technology and Innovation Hub in Chickballapur, in Karnataka, on July 1.

REVA University supports the initiative internally by sponsoring the required facilities. The university aims to support the farmer community through technology, research and innovation.

Standing tall

A view of the clock tower built by the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation at Jagadamba junction. The facelift of the street is attracting several tourists to the spot. K.R. DEEPAK

'10 Kerala castes have just a member each in govt. service'

K.S. Sudhi
KOCHI

Ten castes of Kerala, including Scheduled Castes Raneyar, Chandala and Ajila, and forward communities Kodigar and Chorthapanicker, have only one member each employed in the Kerala government.

The other communities whose representation is limited to one member among the total 5,45,423 employees are Navithaar, Kodiyava, Koodaya, Komaran and Koodigara, according to a community-wise report of employees.

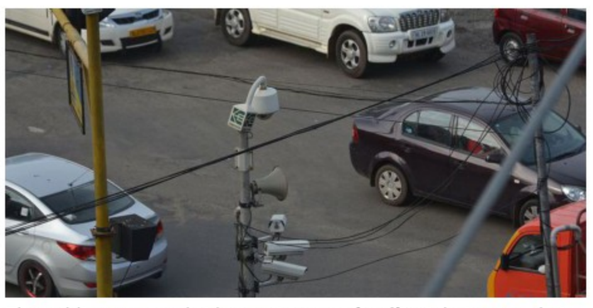
As many as 237 castes of Kerala got representation in government service, with Ezhava turning out to be the most represented community (1,15,075 employees) followed by Nair, 1,08,012, which included 25 sub-castes namely Thampi, Unnithan, Vallyathan, Tharakan, Nair, Pillai and Shoodrar. The representation of 52 communities was limited to a single digit number including Nalakeyava, which has two members, Mughari (7), Padayachi (7) and Melekkarar (3).

The details of employees in 316 departments were prepared by the Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes.

On the list, the Education Department reported the highest number of staff, 1,52,109. However, the Kerala State Haj Committee, Kerala State Palmyrah Products Development and Workers Welfare Corporation, Regional Cancer Centre, K.R. Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science and Arts, Kerala Women's Commission, Minority Welfare Department, Kerala State Veterinary Council, Kerala Nurses and Midwives Council and the Council for Food Research and Development provided the information on only one employee each.

Public can keep tabs on traffic violations via app, help MVD soon

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



The public can record videos or images of traffic violations on their phones and upload on the app. FILE PHOTO

After the successful roll-out of an artificial intelligence-powered automated traffic enforcement system in Kerala to check traffic violations, soon citizens can keep tabs on traffic violations with the Transport Department getting ready to roll out an app to bring violations to the notice of Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) officials.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, the office of Transport Minister K.B. Ganesh Kumar said the app would empower people to assist the MVD officials in enforcing traffic rules.

As part of this project, the public will be able to download an app from Google Play Store and record videos of traffic violations or take photographs of breaches of road safety norms. The app will have built-in links to share videos and photographs with MVD control rooms. The app will have provisions to record and upload live videos and images of traffic violations. The MVD officials will issue e-challans based on the feeds from the app, said the Minister's office.

Recently, the Transport Department in Odisha rolled out a similar Next-Gen mParivahan app 'Citizen Sentinel' on which the public can record videos or images of traffic violations on their phones and upload on the app. The app was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

Already, the multi-crore AI-powered fully automated traffic enforcement system rolled out in Kerala a year ago has reaped rich dividends, with the system detecting close to 68 lakh traffic violations in a year.

In 2021, the Public Works Department (PWD) had introduced a similar app, PWD 4U, for road users to report complaints to authorities to take quick action with regard to the conditions of roads. As per the records, 33,455 complaints had been registered in the app till the middle of February 2024.

Man who killed friend caught within hours in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Srirampura police arrested a moneylender who allegedly stabbed his friend to death over a financial row early on Tuesday.

Based on information that a man was found dead in a bylane, the police ascertained the identity of the deceased as Kumaran, 39, a resident of Saibaba Nagar in Srirampura, who ran a canteen in the area. They said Kumar left home on Monday night with his friend Dayal, a local moneylender. Based on information from Kumaran's wife, the police picked up Dayal for questioning within three hours of the crime.

A probe revealed that Dayal and Kumaran were friends for the last 15 years and the former had lent ₹50 lakh to Kumaran. Kumaran did not return the money despite Dayal asking him.

A new trend

India needs more than troops to combat militants in Jammu

Five Indian Army personnel were killed on Monday after terrorists ambushed an Army convoy in Badnota village, which is 124 kilometres from Kathua town in Jammu. The attack also came on the death anniversary of Hizbul Mujahideen operative Burhan Wani, who was killed in an encounter on July 8, 2016, in south Kashmir. This is the fourth terror-incident in the State within 48 hours and the latest in a series of attacks in the last few months, especially in the Jammu region, reinforcing a new trend of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir shifting towards the Rajouri-Poonch area. On June 9, terrorists attacked a bus in Reasi district killing nine pilgrims and leaving 33 injured, the day Prime Minister Narendra Modi was being sworn in for a third term in office. This attack on the pilgrims was a new low. This region has been quiet for over two decades now, after being a hotbed of insurgency in the late 1990s and early 2000s. This was brought under control by Operation Sarp Vinash in 2003 and subsequent support from the locals, especially the Gujjar-Bakerwal community.

Recurring incidents of security forces being ambushed have resulted in casualties, which is unacceptable for a highly trained and professional force like the Indian Army. This calls for stricter adherence to standard operating procedures and improved operations. While the ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) largely holds, the uptick in terror incidents is a matter of concern – more so, the shift in violence. There are many factors that may be leading to this trend. A major one is the vacuum on the ground with a large number of troops redeployed to the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh in the aftermath of the 2020 standoff with China. This has resulted in a gap in local intelligence. There is also the increased use of modern but easily available technology by terrorist groups looking to find new routes to keep the insurgency going. Botched-up security operations have also damaged the trust between the local population and the state. From foreign terrorists crossing the LoC and leading the attacks, there has been a trend now to push local militants to the forefront to give the insurgency a more home-grown face as international pressure has mounted on Pakistan. New terror groups have also come up claiming to be behind some of the attacks. These aspects present new challenges. Tackling the situation needs a multi-layered strategy beyond just augmenting troop levels. Quick and decisive action at the highest levels of the government, bringing in all stakeholders, is the need of the hour.

Persisting brutality

Russia's pursuit of war in Ukraine has reached a dead end; it is time for talks

Russia's missile strikes across Ukraine on Monday, claiming at least 38 lives, are yet another reminder of the brutality of the ongoing invasion which began on February 24, 2022. Among the civilian locations hit was the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital in Kyiv, where at least two people were killed, according to Ukrainian authorities. Russia says it targeted military and industrial bases and blamed Ukraine's missile defence for the damage to the civilian centres, but such claims cannot be trusted as Russia's sustained bombing campaigns in Ukraine have targeted military and civilian locations. Monday's attack came on the eve of a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit in Washington, where member-countries are expected to take decisions on long-term commitment for Ukraine, including a €40 billion annual military aid. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was in Warsaw on Monday where he signed a new security pact with Poland, which empowers the NATO member-country to shoot down Russian missiles and drones in the Ukrainian airspace. Russia's attack could be the Kremlin's way of messaging NATO and Poland, but the strikes on civilian centres only expose the callousness of Russia's war leaders.

Russia has made incremental territorial gains in recent months. Its troops have advanced in the Kharkiv Oblast, taking several villages. Last week, Ukrainian forces were forced to withdraw from a neighbourhood of Chasiv Yar, a strategic hilltop town in Donetsk. But the absence of dramatic gains, even in the face of Ukraine's weakness, has raised questions about Russia's capabilities. Ukraine may be struggling to hold the frontline but it has taken the drone war to the Black Sea and Russia's mainland. It has incapacitated Russian ships, repeatedly targeted Russia's energy depots using drones and struck Russia's border regions causing civilian and military casualties. Two and a half years after the war began, no side is seen capable of finding a military solution. For Ukraine, pushing Russian troops out of the territories they have captured looks practically impossible. Russia should also realise that its aggression has rejuvenated NATO, its sworn enemy, that has expanded since the war began and promised Kyiv long-term assistance. A practical path ahead is to bring both sides to the table. China's President Xi Jinping said on Monday that world powers should help them hold talks. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in Moscow, also expressed India's support for dialogue. Russia's partners should convince Russian President Vladimir Putin of the need to stop these mindless attacks on Ukraine and be ready for serious dialogue. Ukraine's allies should also put pressure on Kyiv to be more open minded about bringing the war to an end through talks.

A Budget that drives growth with stability

C. Rangarajan

former Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, and former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

D.K. Srivastava

former Director, Madras School of Economics, and former Member, Twelfth Finance Commission

July 23, Budget day, is an opportunity for the government to spell out its medium-term growth and employment perspective, as well as its policy priorities

The final Budget for 2024-25, to be presented on July 23, would be the first Budget of the new government. It is an opportunity for the government to provide its medium-term growth and employment perspective along with its policy priorities. Given the continued global economic slowdown, India will have to rely largely on domestic growth drivers. The short-term objective could be to ensure a minimum 7% growth, while the medium-term objective may be to sustain the real GDP growth rate in the range of 7%-7.5%. This would be facilitated by bringing down the fiscal deficit relative to GDP from the current levels to the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) consistent level of 3% in the next three to four years. The employment objective is not independent of the growth objective except for an additional emphasis on the relatively more labour-intensive sectors in the composition of output.

Investment and savings prospects

To ensure a 7% plus growth on a sustained basis, we require a real investment rate of 35%. As in the latest available data for 2023-24, the real investment rate measured as gross fixed capital formation (GFCF), as percentage of GDP, was 33.3 for 2022-23 and 33.5 for 2023-24. Although gross capital formation (GCF) is marginally higher, we need to ensure a level of GFCF at 35% or so in the medium-term to sustain a growth of 7% plus, assuming an incremental capital output ratio of five. The saving to GDP ratio in nominal and real terms were 30.2% and 32.8%, respectively, in 2022-23. Assuming these trends continue, marginal upward adjustments are required in the savings and investment rates to ensure reaching and sustaining a level of 35% of GDP for the GFCF. One point of concern is the recent fall in household sector financial savings which, as per available information for 2022-23, had fallen to 5.2% of Gross National Disposable Income. Since this provides the investible surplus in addition to inflow of foreign capital, it is critical to increase the household financial savings rate to facilitate access to investible surplus at reasonable rates for the private sector.

On the demand side, the contribution of net exports to GDP growth has remained negative or low in recent years due to subdued export prospects. It was at 0.5% points in 2022-23 and (-)2.0% points in 2023-24. Indian service exports are expected to continue to do better than goods exports, which contracted in 2023-24. Until export demand picks up and private investment gathers momentum, India will have to rely on government investment demand to provide support to growth.

Budgetary options

Compared to the interim Budget, the Centre's revenue position is expected to improve on account of both higher tax and non-tax revenues. The base number for gross tax revenues (GTR) for 2023-24 at ₹34.65 lakh crore, according to the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) actuals, turned out to be higher than the revised estimates (RE) of the interim Budget by a margin of ₹27,581 crore. We expect a nominal GDP growth for 2024-25 to be at least 11%, made up of 7% real growth and 3.8% implicit price deflator (IPD)-based inflation. The rise in the IPD-based inflation as compared to the 2023-24 level of 1.3% is on account of expected higher Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation which was (-)0.7% in 2023-24. With a buoyancy of 1.1 and a GTR growth of 12.1%, we expect a GTR magnitude of ₹38.8 lakh crore. This would translate to a net tax revenue for the Centre at ₹26.4 lakh crore after providing for States' share in central taxes, a shade higher than ₹26 lakh crore provided in the interim Budget.

Non-tax revenues are also expected to be higher, as compared to the interim Budget estimates, due mainly to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s augmented dividends of ₹2.11 lakh crore. We expect the Centre's non-tax revenues to exceed ₹5 lakh crore. It may be noted that any transfer from the RBI is going to be expansionary since it will have a liquidity effect. This transfer is similar to an extension of credit by the RBI to the government without being treated as debt. Thus, it has implications for monetary policy. However, the improved revenue situation of the central government would facilitate meeting the government's fiscal consolidation target.

Assuming that the government adheres to the 5.1% fiscal deficit to GDP ratio, as announced in the interim Budget, total expenditure that can be financed amounts to ₹49 lakh crore after taking into account some non-debt capital receipts. This will have to be allocated between revenue and capital expenditures. With the interim Budget expenditure magnitudes, revenue expenditure growth in 2024-25 turns out to be 4.6% over the CGA actuals for 2023-24. This growth may have to be increased to accommodate higher revenue expenditures on account of increased subsidies, increased health expenditures and increased allocations for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to support and provide relief largely to the rural population.

Some improvement in rural incomes is expected in the current year with the expectation of it being a normal monsoon. Our estimates indicate that even if the revenue expenditure growth is enhanced to 8%, this would provide additional revenue expenditures close to ₹3 lakh crore over 2023-24 actuals. This would still leave fiscal space to provide for capital expenditure growth of 19.2% in 2024-25 which would be required for supporting investment demand resulting in infrastructure expansion that is consistent with the government's medium-term objectives. Some tax rationalisation measures may be undertaken as long as they do not imply any significant revenue sacrifice. Some expansion of the ongoing Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, particularly if it supports employment generation, may be considered.

Commit to FRBM targets

In conclusion, the Budget needs to aim at combining growth with stability. Stability includes both price stability and fiscal stability. It is important to signal commitment to the FRBM targets in the short to medium term. If the fiscal deficit to GDP ratio is brought down to 5.1% in 2024-25, it may take another three to four years to bring it down to 3% of GDP. As the fiscal deficit to GDP ratio is reduced and nominal GDP growth is kept in the range of 11%-11.5%, the debt GDP ratio and the interest payment to revenue receipts ratio would also come down, facilitating the reduction in fiscal deficit, thereby creating a virtuous cycle.

The views expressed are personal

The shape of manufacturing 3.0 for Modi 3.0

Richard Rossow

holds the Chair in United States-India Policy Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). He has worked on India's commercial reforms for over 25 years in a variety of private sector capacities

The United States has a stake in ensuring India's success in having a robust manufacturing base

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has formed the government, albeit now as head of a coalition in his third term. The new government must redouble its efforts on economic reforms, particularly related to manufacturing. India's continued urbanisation will see hundreds of millions of agriculture workers relocate to cities to find formal employment in the coming decades. A failure to generate low-skilled employment could push staggering stress on India's governance structures. Success in manufacturing will not only help India's domestic trade and employment goals but also expand resources for national security – which is good for American interests, too.

Manufacturing base must improve

When the Modi government first took office in 2014, the government committed to increase manufacturing as a percent of gross domestic product (GDP) from 15% up to 25% by 2025. The writer can point to some significant economic reforms that should have helped this target become a reality, most notably the approval of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in 2017, which largely unified India's State-level tax codes.

However, as World Bank data indicates, manufacturing is in relative decline, making up only 13% of the GDP in 2022. This compares unfavourably to markets such as Vietnam (25%), Bangladesh (22%), Malaysia (23%), Indonesia (18%), Mexico (21%), and, of course, China (28%).

India has powerful domestic compulsions to improve its manufacturing base. First, India has a massive employment-creation requirement. About half of Indian labour remains mired in low-productivity agriculture. If India's attempts to enact major farming reforms are successful, there could be a fast, massive transition of employment out of agriculture. These workers are ill-suited for India's highly successful skilled services sector.

A second reason behind India's desire to boost manufacturing is the nation's goods trade deficit. Despite a perception that India is "anti-trade", India had a little over $1 trillion in goods trade in the last 12 months – and a $250 billion deficit during that period. While hydrocarbon imports account for over one-quarter of India's imports, manufactured goods such as electronics are a substantial import component. When looking at trade more broadly, India enjoys a large surplus in services trade – about $160 billion surplus in the last 12 months on $518 billion in total services trade. But, again, even though the services sector creates substantial economic output, it employs relatively few workers.

The United States has a stake in India's success in building a robust manufacturing base for two reasons. First, improvements to India's industrial base will have direct and indirect effects on India's ability to underwrite its emerging role in regional security which is increasingly important given China's rising aggression. Second, some amount of manufacturing will not come back onshore. Having this manufacturing based in friendly countries improves the viability of U.S. supply chains. India's ability to achieve greater success in manufacturing will require far more moving parts than what the central government in Delhi controls. Most factors of production such as electric power, water, sanitation, labour regulations, land acquisition rules, and environment regulations are primarily controlled by India's State governments. This is where the new Indian government needs to provide a much higher degree of policy attention.

States and their business environments

The Modi government's early attempts to stoke States into competition with each other have fallen by the wayside. The rankings of States' business environments called the "Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP)", has not been updated since the COVID-19 pandemic, and was anyway considered weak as it focused on States' self-reporting on their local business practices which was often at odds with actual investor experiences. The central government's plan to help craft model industry laws for States to consider has been underwhelming.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) controls almost half of India's States. Most of the remaining States are controlled by India's numerous regional parties, with varying levels of cooperation and friction with the central government. Getting more States to focus on thoughtful, transparent industrial policies is a difficult task and will require an improved toolkit of sticks and carrots. The government should also consider putting stronger emphasis on job-creating manufacturing sectors such as textiles, paper mills, and furniture, instead of pushing almost exclusively for investments in capital-intensive sectors such as semiconductors and robotics.

Go beyond Delhi-Mumbai-Bengaluru circuit

The U.S. can play a modest but meaningful role in improving the business attractiveness of Indian States. This may include expanding engagement with Indian States to provide direct guidance on effective economic governance, and to improve pathways for potential investors to engage with State governments. Senior U.S. officials visiting India must commit to going beyond Delhi-Mumbai-Bengaluru and engaging a wider set of large States on the importance and opportunity from the current evolution of global supply chains.

India's national election provided an opportunity to assess and redirect policy. But India's core needs behind the current manufacturing push – jobs, trade, and security – will not change. The size of the market and current growth rates are quite attractive to investors. But more work needs to be done, especially at the State level in India, for "Make in India" to further accelerate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Court and NEET

Now that the Supreme Court of India has concluded that questions in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) were leaked (Page 1, July 9), and that the sanctity of the examination was compromised, the moot question is what next? Cancellation of NEET-UG 2024 in its entirety is needed so that justice is done to all 23 lakh students who appeared for the examination.

In order to maintain the continuity of studies of aspiring students, the examination for 2024 may be cancelled and the State governments asked to follow the procedure that was in vogue during the pre-NEET era for admission in medical colleges. The National Testing Agency (NTA) should plug all loopholes and have a foolproof system in place for NEET-UG in 2025.

Dr. J. Rajan Vedasiromoni,
Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu

The paper leak may be "confined' to a few States but in this era of modern technology, the leak can spread anywhere. Given the importance of NEET in the lives and careers of lakhs of our students, the government must ensure that there is a re-examination with a foolproof system. This is not the time to play politics with the issue given the gravity of the situation.

Kshirasagara Balaji Rao,
Hyderabad

That the Chief Justice of India has confirmed that there was a leak and that the sanctity of NEET-UG 2024 was compromised is a very grave matter. But his opinion that 'cancellation of the examination will be considered as an extreme last resort' is likely to deprive lakhs of students who appeared for the test of a fair playing field. It is very clear that the leak was all over India with only a few epicentres having been discovered. There are stories that questions were circulated on platforms such as Telegram. There are many students who will be rendered justice if a re-examination is ordered.

Balakrishnan,
Chennai

It is difficult to determine the extent of compromise or whether the alleged breach occurred at a systemic level and to differentiate the beneficiaries of the fraud from the untainted students. Although a retest would be disadvantageous to students who attempted the examination honestly, it does not seem likely to determine the extent of the breach in a short period of time which will preclude a retest.

Dr. Thomas Palocaren,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

NEET 2024 was conducted by the NTA on May 5. Even after two months, the fraud perpetuated by the NTA is causing unmeasurable mental agony to aspirants and their guardians/parents. The sanctity behind such examinations is fading. The judges in the highest court of the land need to declare a retest by giving students sufficient time to prepare for NEET again. Let the students have the pleasure of joining the courses of their choice through NEET in the proper way.

G. Murali Mohan Rao,
Secunderabad

Law and order

The new Chennai City Police Commissioner's line, that he will "talk to criminals in the language they understand" (Tamil Nadu page, July 9), points to tough action. It is not that the police are not aware of the networks of the criminals. What is needed is a strong political will and administrative clearance to the police to go ahead.

A. Jainulabdeen,
Chennai

Electoral outcomes

As the elections in France show, the fact remains that the economic issues of day-to-day living have returned. Followed by Labour's win in the U.K., the results in France point to a change of trend emerging in democracies.

Angara Venkata Girija Kumar,
Chennai

The innate limitations in executing iCET

Rahul Bedi
writes on defence and security issues

Despite the seemingly successful talks between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and his U.S. counterpart Jake Sullivan in June, to make progress on the bilateral Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET), structural challenges endure in its execution.

Local industry officials and military analysts maintain that these impediments pertain primarily to the autonomy of U.S. defence companies with regard to transferring technology, which have been developed at immense cost at Washington's behest with many companies zealously guarding their intellectual property rights (IPR) over it. Additionally, the U.S.'s strict export control laws in this regard, controlled by its defence industrial complex, were loath to sharing military technologies via joint ventures, however meaningful they might be to Washington's wider strategic interests.

For now, the iCET's defence component is focused on India locally manufacturing General Electric GE F-414INS6 after burning turbofan engines to power the under-development Tejas Mk-II light combat aircraft and locally assembling 31 armed MQ-9 armed Reaper/ Predator-B unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), under acquisition for all three services, for around $3 billion.

Limitations

Official sources claimed negotiations had been concluded for GE to transfer around 80% technology to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to produce the F-414 engines, but not critical know-how related to forging metallurgy discs for the power packs turbines. Technology transfer from General Atomics Aeronautical Systems to assemble the MQ-9s reportedly stands at around 10-15%, and includes establishing a domestic maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility for the UAVs. Alongside, directly acquiring, licence-building and co-developing the General Dynamics Land Systems Stryker Infantry Combat Vehicle for the Indian Army, under iCET patronage, is under negotiation.

But innate limitations in all these ventures persist.

Military analyst Abhijit Singh said that the U.S. government does not presume to act on behalf of its defence companies that own the IPRs for their sundry wares. Besides, U.S. defence vendors, he cautioned, were answerable to their shareholders, whose motivations were largely commercially driven. This, in turn, could adversely impact the quantum of technology they were willing to transfer.

It was precisely these mercantile considerations, weighed down by cumbersome bureaucracies, that led to the failure of the 2012 Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) between India and the U.S., and on whose ashes the iCET emerged in June 2023, albeit with a more ambitious remit.

The DTTI flopped due to technology transfer issues. The iCET emerged enabled, in turn, by an alphabet soup of organisations including INDUS-X (India-U.S. Defense Acceleration Ecosystem), Joint IMPACT (INDUS-X Mutual Promotion Advanced Collaborative Technologies) 1.0, IMPACT 2.0 and ADDD (Advanced Domains Defense Dialogue).

Exercising 'jugaad'

Meanwhile, a cross-section of domestic defence industry officials averred that one strategy to ensure iCETs attainment, and that of related projects, centred on the U.S. permitting the Indian military to exercise the *jugaad* or innovative option on its U.S. platforms such as attack and heavy-lift helicopters, heavy transport aircraft, and naval surveillance aircraft it had acquired. After all, this resourceful *jugaad* recourse had provided India's military with user flexibility, by ably rendering imported platforms serviceable in climatic extremes and assorted terrain. Through trial and error over decades, the services had elevated *jugaad* to sophisticated levels to ensure that foreign weapon systems performed over their declared potential. For instance, *jugaad* had rendered the fleet of Chetak's and Cheetah's, principally French-origin Alouette III's and SA-315B Lama's, capable of operating to heights over 14,000 feet in the Siachen glacier region, a feat their original equipment manufacturers had never deemed possible.

But the complex set of 'enabling' protocols that India had executed with the U.S. ahead of acquiring all the aforementioned assets simply foreclosed the possibility of pursuing the established, and at times, essential *jugaad* route. Besides, most of these acquisitions effected via the Foreign Military Sales or FMS route were concluded under the stricter 'Golden Sentry' end-use monitoring programme which completely disallows *jugaad*.

The iCET also appears to be part of the U.S.'s overall policy, outlined in a recent Senate Foreign Relations Committee report, which urged President Joseph Biden to address the ticklish issue of India's close strategic ties with Moscow and particularly its dependency on Russian arms. The implicit suggestion in the February 2023 report was that India should now begin sourcing its future military kit from Washington, conceivably via the iCET route.

Hopefully, the iCET will not fall prey to Augustine's Laws, the tongue-in-cheek aphorisms immortalised by Norman Augustine, an Under Secretary of the U.S. Army. One Law states that the more time both sides spend talking about what they had been doing, the less time they had to spend doing what they were talking about. And eventually they (could) end up spending more and more time talking about less and less, until finally they spent all their time talking about nothing.

Impediments pertain primarily to the autonomy of U.S. defence companies with regard to transferring technology

A thaw in ties between Andhra and Telangana

Patience and persistence are needed to solve long-pending issues

STATE OF PLAY

M. Rajeev
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The meeting between the Chief Ministers of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh on Saturday was the first step towards improving ties between the two States.

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu discussed several issues that have strained relations between the two States for more than a decade. The two hour-long meeting comes at a time when opinions on the bifurcation of erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh continue to play a role in the politics of both States.

The Chief Ministers decided to put in place a three-level mechanism to resolve the bifurcation issues that arose after the enactment of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, carving out a separate State of Telangana. At the first level is a committee of three officials, each of the rank of Chief Secretary from the two States, who will come up with solutions to pending issues. If some disputes remain unresolved by the bureaucrats, they will be referred to a committee of ministers of the two States. Finally, the most vexatious issues will be referred to the two Chief Ministers.

Mr. Reddy and Mr. Naidu also expressed keenness to meet every now and then to ensure that ties between their States grow stronger. They agreed to constitute a committee of senior Indian Police Service officers to check the movement of drugs and narcotics between the two States. They also tentatively reached

an agreement on information and intelligence-sharing to tackle this problem.

Past meetings

Similar meetings have taken place in the past. E.S.L. Narasimhan, as Governor, convened a meeting of former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and his Andhra Pradesh counterpart, Mr. Naidu, in 2015 with the objective of thrashing out a solution to bifurcation problems between the two newly formed States.

In 2019, too, Mr. Rao met the then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Following their meeting, the Andhra Pradesh government handed over the buildings in the State Secretariat in its possession to Telangana, paving the way for the construction of the new Secretariat building in Hyderabad.

Mr. Rao and Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy met the next year at the same venue in January 2020. They discussed again issues of bifurcation and the modalities to resolve them. But the meeting drew flak from the Opposition Congress later, with the party charging Mr. Rao of allowing Andhra Pradesh to draw more water from the Krishna river than the share allocated to it, at the expense of Telangana's interests.

Seen against this background, the meeting of the two Chief Ministers on Saturday assumes greater significance. "They are intent on assuaging the hurt feelings of the two sides because of the decisions taken in the past. They have resolved to take concrete steps that will help improve the bond between the two States," said a senior official who participated in the meeting.

At a meeting of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP)'s Telangana leaders and cadres on Sunday. Mr. Naidu said that his government would adopt a "give and take" approach. He said that the TDP government would take decisions factoring in the aspirations of the people of both States. Mr. Naidu told party workers that "the persistence of problems between the two States will not accrue any benefits. The two States will suffer if these problems continue". This is why it is imperative for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to resolve them amicably, he said. "We (the two Chief Ministers) have taken the responsibility, and we will ensure that this happens," he stressed.

The meeting and the subsequent statements are welcome. But whether the two Chief Ministers will stick to their resolve is the question. Some issues are particularly sticky – for instance, the division of institutions under Schedule IX and X of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, water-sharing, and the stalemate over power dues payable by one another. The two States have been at loggerheads over these for a long time. While it is a relief to see efforts being made towards establishing cordial ties, intent alone will not suffice. Only patience and persistence can help the two States resolve festering issues and work in the interests of the people.

In 2024, Maoists suffer severe setbacks in Chhattisgarh

The insurgency is at its peak in districts with poor development indicators

DATA POINT

Nitika Francis

As of July 9, 162 Maoist deaths were reported in India in 2024. Of these, 141 deaths were reported from Chhattisgarh alone. This is among the highest number of casualties suffered by the extremists in the largely tribal State since the formation of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) in 2004.

The Maoist deaths in 2024 are the highest since 2009, when 154 insurgents were killed. That was also the year when the Indian government banned the group and launched a military offensive codenamed 'Operation Green Hunt', involving the Central Reserve Police Force's CoBRA force and the Chhattisgarh police in "search and comb" operations. Notably, the current spike in the number of deaths of left-wing extremists has taken place after the Bharatiya Janata Party returned to power in the State in December 2023.

Chart 1 shows year-wise deaths of left-wing extremists in Chhattisgarh. Apart from 2009 and 2024, the Maoists also suffered high death tolls in 2016 and 2018.

While the Maoists have suffered more casualties in recent years, the deaths of security force personnel have come down. **Chart 2** shows the number of deaths of civilians, security forces, and Maoists over the years. In 2024, 14 security force personnel died in the insurgency. The highest death toll of security forces (198) was recorded in 2007. Of them, 55 were police personnel who were killed in a massive offensive launched by the Maoists on a police base camp in Bastar.

The number of civilian deaths during the insurgency has also been at its lowest since 2014, when 23 people were killed in Maoist attacks. The highest number of civilian deaths (184) were reported in 2006, largely in landmine attacks on vehicles or when they were caught in the crossfire between the Maoists and security forces.

The highest number of clashes between the Maoists and security forces this year took place in Bijapur district, south Chhattisgarh, resulting in 74 Maoist deaths.

Bijapur and neighbouring Sukma district are home to 20 camps set up by the Border Security Force (BSF). Due to the intensity of operations in this district, 33 Maoists surrendered in May.

The BSF and the District Reserve Guard of Kanker district led a joint operation in April which resulted in the deaths of 29 Maoists, including that of their top commander, Shankar Rao. This year, 35 Maoist deaths have been recorded in Kanker.

In Dantewada, where pitched battles between the insurgents and security forces over the years led to an average 52 deaths of Maoists between 2005 and 2008, 15 Maoists were killed in 2024. This is despite the fact that more than 15 villages in the district were declared 'Maoist-free' in 2021.

Table 3 shows the district-wise average of Maoist deaths every four years from 2001 to 2024.

A district-wise look at development and welfare indicators in Chhattisgarh **(Table 4)** and a comparison with Table 3 shows that the intensity of the insurgency is highest in districts which were relatively lacking in areas such as sanitation and literacy. This could either mean that the Maoists chose to move in these districts, seeking to tap into the discontent with the Indian state, or that these districts lag in development indicators because of the insurgency.

Districts such as Dantewada, Bijapur, Sukma, Bastar, and Kanker are also the most forested areas in the State, which makes security operations difficult. Notwithstanding the setbacks in recent months, the Maoists retain their ability to mount surprise attacks on security forces, which suggests that the insurgency is not over in the State.

Left-wing extremism in retreat

The charts are based on data sourced from the South Asia Terrorism Portal

Chart 1: The chart shows the number of Maoist deaths in Chhattisgarh

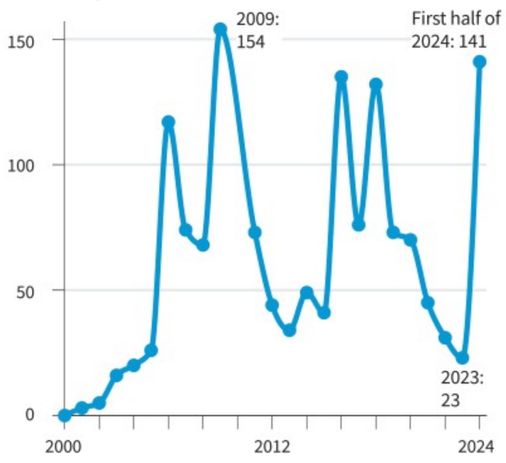


Chart 2: The chart shows the number of deaths of civilians, security forces, and Maoists over the years

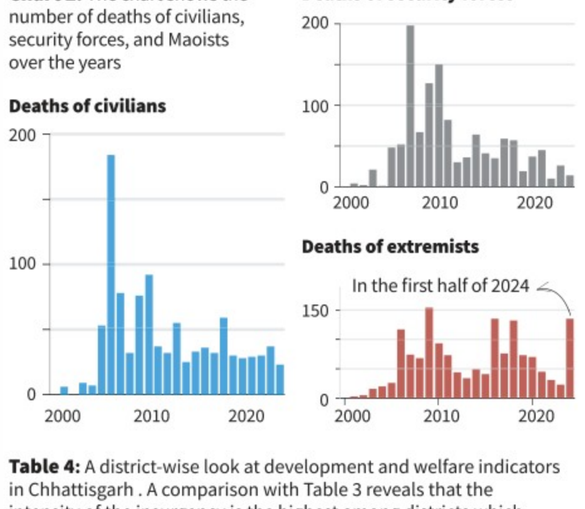


Table 3: The district-wise average number of deaths in incidents related to LWE every four years.
Based on this table, Dantewada, Bijapur, Sukma, Bastar, Narayanpur, Kanker, Rajnandangaon and Surguja can be identifed as districts that were recently or historically affected by LWE

Districts in Chhattisgarh	2001-04	2005-08	2009-12	2013-16	2017-20	2021-24
Dantewada	31	52	40	11	12	17
Bijapur	5	22	26	28	23	30
Sukma	0	0	4	35	36	20
Bastar	37	8	4	8	4	1
Narayanpur	0	4	6	8	8	14
Kanker	1	7	7	5	7	12
Rajnandangaon	3	1	6	2	7	2
Surguja	16	4	0	0	0	0
Kondagaon	0	0	1	3	1	2
Balrampur	4	1	0	0	0	0
Raipur	3	0	2	0	0	0
Dhamtari	0	0	2	0	2	1
Gariaband	0	0	2	0	0	1
Mohalamanpur	0	0	0	0	0	1
Raigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Durg	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kabirdham	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jashpur	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bilaspur	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balod	0	0	0	0	0	0
Janjgir-Champa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Korba	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mahasamund	0	0	0	0	0	0

The district names in table 3 and table 4 may differ as the sources and reference years are different

Table 4: A district-wise look at development and welfare indicators in Chhattisgarh . A comparison with Table 3 reveals that the intensity of the insurgency is the highest among districts which were relatively lacking in areas such as sanitation, literacy, and which recorded stunting

Districts in Chhattisgarh	Affected/ Limited (ltd.) impact due to LWE	Population using an improved sanitation facility (%)	Women with >9 years of schooling (%)	Children under 5 years who are stunted (%)
Bijapur	Affected	30.6	24.2	53.8
Bastar	Affected	61	25.3	48.1
Dantewada	Affected	60.5	24.2	45.6
Narayanpur	Affected	52.8	26.5	43.7
Sukma	Affected	35.5	15.9	41.8
Baloda Bazar	Ltd. impact	78.9	38.7	40.9
Raigarh	Ltd. impact	66.3	38.3	39.1
Durg	Ltd. impact	89.5	52.7	38.9
Bemetara	Ltd. impact	80.5	33	38.4
Kabeerdham	Ltd. impact	80.3	32.6	37.9
Kondagaon	Affected	79.5	24.7	37.6
Mahasamund	Ltd. impact	84.2	31.2	36.8
Jashpur	Ltd. impact	72.8	34.9	35.8
Balrampur	Ltd. impact	57.3	32.2	35.1
Korba	Ltd. impact	73.3	37.1	34.7
Balod	Ltd. impact	83.8	46.3	33.6
Janjgir - Champa	Ltd. impact	78.8	37.3	32.5
Raipur	Ltd. impact	84	40.1	32.2
Koriya	Affected	73.3	37	32.1
Dhamtari	Ltd. impact	89.8	40.9	30.5
Mungeli	Ltd. impact	80.7	32.2	30.1
Surguja	Affected	75.8	37.7	29.4
Gariyaband	Ltd. impact	81	27.8	28.9
Rajnandgaon	Affected	79.2	38.9	27.6
Surajpur	Affected	75.4	30.7	27.6
Bilaspur	Ltd. impact	80.5	37.4	25.7
Kanker	Affected	80.5	40.3	24.8

In all the three indicators, the districts with the lowest scores are highlighted. Affected districts fare poorly across all three indicators

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 10, 1974

Decisive win for Trudeau

Washington, July 9: The Prime Minister Mr. Trudeau's Liberal Party has scored an astounding victory in yesterday's Canadian elections, upsetting all previous predictions which said that it would be another close race, leaving the country with the prospect of another spell of uncertain coalition rule. The Liberals have now won not only a majority of the 264 seats in the House of Commons but have given Canada its third majority Government in 20 years.

In the last House, after the last election in 1972, the Liberals had won only 109 seats to the Conservative Party's 106 seats and the former had been obliged to lead a cliff-hanger existence for 20 months in a coalition supported by the 30-member New Democratic Party. But that arrangement broke down and the Trudeau Government fell when the NDP voted with the Conservatives last May on budgetary issues.

The results yesterday were particularly astonishing because very rarely has a ruling party been re-elected when the country has been wracked by the kind of inflation (11 per cent), which Canada has been afflicted by during the last one year.

Mr. Trudeau's principal rival, the stodgy Mr. Robert Stanfield of the Conservative Party, had pinned all his hopes on beating Mr. Trudeau by concentrating solely on the inflation issue, but his own solution, which was wage-price freeze, apparently did not appeal to the electorate because they know that it had been tried elsewhere without any success. Though the 60-year-old Mr. Stanfield has retained his seat in Parliament, the Trudeau victory is expected to end his leadership of the Conservative Party.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 10, 1924

Gun running

Colombo, July 9: On information received the Customs Preventive Officers boarded the German vessel "Schlesien" when she arrived at the Colombo harbour on Monday and from 19 cases falsely described as containing machinery parts they obtained one hundred rifles, 200 revolvers and a quantity of ammunition. Captain was fined Rs. 1,000 for not declaring cargo properly and the contraband was confiscated. The cargo was apparently consigned to Kobe, but its real destination was China.

From Page One

Modi's request to release Indian soldiers accepted

According to those aware of the recruitment process and the routes taken by Indian men and agents who bring them, many Indian military recruits have not registered with the Embassy, as they are lured by salaries of approximately ₹2 lakh a month, the promise of Russian residency papers, as well as the possibility of using illegal migrant routes to go further West to Schengen countries in Europe.

After *The Hindu* first reported on the demand that was raised by Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi as some men from his constituency had reached out, the Ministry of External Affairs accepted that there was a problem amongst a "few" such cases.

However, subsequently, it has emerged that there are at least 50 Indian men serving at the war front, of which four have been killed.

In Parliament last week, Mr. Owaisi had referred to Indians who were not being prevented by the government to travel to conflict zones in Russia and Israel as "cannon fodder". The MEA has said that about 9-10 who reached out directly to the Embassy have been returned to India, after the Embassy's intervention with the Kremlin.

The Hindu has learnt that several others had already received their discharge papers, but were awaiting a formal release from the war front by their commanding officers.

(With inputs from Vijaita Singh)

Kathua anti-militancy operations stepped up

The Monday attack was the first in many decades that took place in the jurisdiction of the Western Command.

The circle of operation was widened to the upper reaches of Kindli, Daggar, and Bani areas of Kathua. Simultaneous anti-militancy operations have been launched in adjoining districts of Udhampur, Reasi, and Doda.

Official sources said the militants, whose numbers remain unascertained, used sophisticated weapons, including armour-piercing bullets in the attack. The *modus operandi* adopted by the ultras is the same as employed in at least three attacks in the Rajouri-Poonch belt since 2021, where attackers tracked the movement of vulnerable non-bullet military vehicles and chose narrow tracks and thick forest areas to mount a surprise attack from two sides, especially aiming at the driver of the vehicle, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the security forces failed to re-establish contact with the militants in Kathua in spite of putting into service UAVs and choppers to scan the dense forest cover and undulating topography, which the militants are using as a shield.

Top police officials, including Director General of Police R.R. Swain and Additional Director General of Police Anand Jain, carried out an aerial survey of the attack site. Officials said security in Kathua had been reviewed.

Godman not named in U.P. SIT's report

Additionally, news articles about the incident, onsite videography, photographs and video clippings were reviewed.

"In the preliminary investigation, the two-member team held the event organisers responsible for the accident based on eyewitness accounts and other evidence. The organisers obtained permission for the event by concealing facts. The conditions applicable for the permission were not followed. They did not make adequate and smooth arrangements despite inviting an unexpected crowd, nor did they comply with the conditions set by the local administration for the programme," the report said.

Told stores to remove 14 products: Patanjali to SC

The Bench asked the Information and Broadcasting Ministry to hold a brainstorming session with industry stakeholders along with the Consumer Affairs Ministry and the Health Ministry against the backdrop of the May 7 order.

"Industry should not suffer in any manner... The government has to continue to churn out ideas to address the issue," Justice Kohli said. The Centre was ordered to file an affidavit detailing the outcome of the meeting in three weeks.

Earlier hearings based on a contempt petition filed by the Indian Medical Association had witnessed the court pull up Patanjali, Ramdev, and his associate for airing claims that their products cure everything from diabetes to liver dysfunction and even COVID-19 in "deliberate and willful violations" of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act of 1954 and its Rules.

The May 7 order had made self-declaration under Rule 7 of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 mandatory before displaying, printing, or airing advertisements after holding that the "fundamental right to health encompasses the right of a consumer to be made aware of the quality of products being offered for sale by manufacturers, service providers, advertisers and advertising agencies".

Day after terror strike, Kathua sees protest against Pakistan

Kashmir parties condemn the attack on the Army; NC president Farooq Abdullah says if Pakistan thinks it will bring about a change by sending terrorists across the border, it will never happen

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR/JAMMU

Anti-Pakistan protests were held in parts of the Jammu region on Tuesday over the Kathua attack that left five soldiers dead on Monday. As Jammu and Kashmir parties in one voice condemned the attack, National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah expressed concern over the uptick in violence and sought dialogue.

Raging anger: People protest following a terrorist attack on an Army convoy in Kathua of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday. PTI

Local people held demonstrations in Jammu city over the attacks. They raised anti-Pakistan slogans. A protest rally was held by lawyers of the Jammu Bar Association under the leadership of senior advocate Vikram Sharma. He described the Kathua attack as "an act of cowardice by Pakistan-backed terrorists". The lawyers accused Pakistan of "sponsoring terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir." Scores of lawyers at the Kathua court also held protests.

NC condemns attack

Top leaders of the NC, including Mr. Farooq Abdullah and party vice-president Omar Abdullah, condemned the attack, but targeted the BJP-led government.

"We have been saying time and again that militancy is a problem in Jammu and Kashmir.. This government had convinced itself that somehow August 5, 2019 is the solution to all problems, including terror and violence. But that clearly isn't the case," Mr. Omar Abdullah said. He demanded "extra vigilance" from the administration. "The administration is showing a lax attitude. Hopefully, such attacks won't happen again," he said.

Mr. Farooq slammed Pakistan and demanded an end to violent attacks. "Terrorism will not help anyone. If our neighbour thinks it will bring a change by sending these terrorists, it will never happen. The fighting will only bring about devastation for both countries. Please, stop this terrorism," he said. He stressed that "war leads to destruction and devastation". "The need is for peaceful resolution of conflicts and dialogue to address our differences."

Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti said, "Tragic and equally shocking that they are losing their lives in the line of duty in places where one found little to no trace of militancy before 2019. Tells you all there is to know about the current security situation in Jammu and Kashmir".

Terror attack is a 'strategic failure' of Centre, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Terming Monday's terror attack in Kathua, in which five Army soldiers were killed and five injured, a "strategic failure", the Congress on Tuesday asked the Union government to take the country into confidence, detailing the steps it was taking to counter the increased presence of terror groups in the Jammu sector.

Addressing a press conference in Delhi, Congress MP and senior leader Deepender Singh Hooda expressed "deep concern", and said the party was committed to cooperating with the government on the issues of national security.

He said the party remained steadfast in its support for the Army and other security forces.

'Disturbing trend'

"There is a disturbing trend of growing number of terror attacks in the Jammu sector, which, in comparison to the Valley, has always remained more peaceful. One of the reasons, as per many veterans, is the heavy deployment of forces in the Ladakh region because of the ongoing India-China conflict, while not paying enough attention to the Jammu sector," Mr. Hooda said.

He urged the government to remain more alert to the threats, and castigated it for being "overconfident".

"The government is more invested in presenting its own narrative. When demonetisation was brought, the government had claimed it will help in controlling terrorism. They used the same argument for abrogating Article 370," Mr. Hooda said.

There was also growing concern about the government's foreign policy, with even neighbouring countries such as Nepal and the Maldives refusing to cooperate with India, he added.

Attack in Kathua leaves Uttarakhand shaken

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

When Bharat Singh and Sumitra Devi, parents of 26-year-old rifleman Anuj Negi, heard of his death in the Kathua terror attack that took place late on Monday night, the first thing they did was switch off the television and ensure his wife Seema, 23, was not told of his death. Seema and Anuj married in November last year and she had hardly spent a couple of months with her husband, who now returns home draped in the Tricolour.

Negi was one among the five soldiers killed when a group of heavily armed terrorists ambushed a patrolling party in the Badnota area in Jammu's Kathua district on July 8. All five soldiers were with Uttarakhand's Garhwal Rifles regiment.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Negi's father said that he had been told the body of his son would be sent to Kotdwar by Tuesday night, and would reach his village, Dabriya in Pauri Garhwal, on Wednesday morning. Mr. Singh works as a daily wager with the Forest Department; his wife is a homemaker.

"He was my only son and too young to die," Mr. Singh said, trying to control his tears, adding that his daughter-in-law's loss was far greater.

Inconsolable state

Grief pervades the house of havaldar Kamal Singh from Papri village in Pauri Garhwal. He is survived by his elderly mother, Sumita Devi, wife Rajni, and two daughters, aged three and five, all of whom are inconsolable.

Tributes to heroes: Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami pays tributes to the five soldiers in Dehradun on Tuesday. ANI

Rifleman Adarsh Negi, 26, from Thati Dagar village in Tehri Garhwal district also lost his life in the attack. The youngest son of a farmer, Dalbir Singh Negi, his kin said Adarsh Negi always wanted to become an Army man and serve the country.

The late Naik Vinod Singh, 33, from New Tehri, joined the Army in 2011. He had visited his home in May this year to meet his four-month-old daughter. He is survived by his parents, wife, and two children.

The sudden demise in Kathua of Naib Subedar Anand Singh Rawat, 41, has triggered a wave of mourning in his native village in Rudraprayag.

"Five brave soldiers of Uttarakhand attained martyrdom during the cowardly terrorist attack in Kathua. This is a moment of great pain for all of us residents of the State because we have lost a brother and a son. All I can say is that their supreme sacrifice for the nation will not go in vain," Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said.

Hathras stampede case listed for hearing: CJI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, during an oral mentioning on Tuesday, said the Hathras stampede case had been listed for judicial hearing.

"I had yesterday ordered the Hathras matter to be listed," he said.

A writ petition was filed in the court on July 3 to appoint a five-member expert committee. The petition filed by advocate Vishal Tiwari asked the court to lay down safety guidelines for mass meetings and public gatherings.

Court to hear review pleas on same-sex marriage case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A five-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud will on Wednesday hear petitions seeking a review of an October 2023 judgment of the Supreme Court which refused to legalise same-sex marriage.

The review pleas would be examined in the judges' chambers at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Tuesday morning saw senior advocates A.M. Singhvi, Mukul Rohatgi, Neeraj Kishan Kaul, Menaka Guruswamy, advocates Karuna Nundy and Arundhati Katju urge the Chief Justice, during oral mentioning hour, to have the review hearing in the open courtroom considering the public interest involved in the issue.

The Chief Justice refused to commit to an open-court hearing.

The Review Bench would also comprise Justices Sanjiv Khanna, Hima Kohli, B.V. Nagarathna, and P.S. Narasimha.

The review petitions have argued that the Supreme Court verdict compelled queer couples, who wish for the joys of a real family, to remain in the closet and lead dishonest lives.

Prime accused in Mumbai hit-and-run case Mihir Shah held

Ateeq Shaikh
MUMBAI

The Mumbai Police arrested Mihir Shah, the main accused in the Worli hit-and-run case, from Virar in Palghar district on Tuesday.

On July 7, Mr. Shah, allegedly under the influence of alcohol, hit a two-wheeler with his luxury car, killing Kaveri Nakhawa and injuring her husband, Pradeep Nakhawa.

The Mumbai Police confirmed Mr. Shah's arrest from the Virar Phata area on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway. The police have brought him to the Worli police station where the case was registered.

Rajesh Shah, father of the accused, is a leader of the Shiv Sena in Palghar district. Mr. Rajesh was arrested on Sunday and released on bail on Monday. Rajrishi Bidawat, the family's driver, who was sitting next to Mr. Shah when the crash happened, is in police custody. Apart from Mr. Shah, his mother and two sisters were detained from the neighbouring Thane district, the home turf of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) leader and former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said arresting Mr. Shah two days after the incident will weaken the drunk driving case against him.

"Mihir Shah was arrested after two days. Everyone knows that he was sitting in a bar and consuming alcohol, after which he ran over the woman with his car. Now, if they take his blood sample for an alcohol test, it will be negative. This would benefit him in the court as only negligence in driving charge will be applicable," Mr. Deshmukh said.

Shiv Sena (UBT) youth leader and former Minister Aaditya Thackeray questioned how, despite the availability of surveillance cameras and intelligence network, the government failed to arrest Mr. Shah promptly. Mr. Thackeray asked if political pressure was put to delay the arrest. Hitting out at Mr. Shinde, he wrote on X that the Chief Minister "must stop the grandstanding" on his concern, and directives to police are an eyewash to divert attention from the hit-and-run case.

In another development, the State's Excise Department sealed Vice Global Tapas Bar in Juhu and questioned the owner and staff.

Soumya Swaminathan

Soumya Swaminathan appointed NTEP adviser

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, former Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research and Chief Scientist of the World Health Organization, has been appointed Principal Adviser at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP).

She will be serving in the Ministry on a *pro bono* basis.

Dr. Swaminathan will be based out of Chennai, she told *The Hindu*, where she heads the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation that works on issues of agriculture and climate change.

As the Principal Adviser, Dr. Swaminathan will provide technical advice on the overall strategy to achieve goals and advise on research strategy.

Congress submits breach of privilege notice against PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress's Rajya Sabha Chief Whip Jairam Ramesh submitted a breach of privilege notice against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for making "derogatory" remarks against former Vice-President and Chairman of the Upper House Hamid Ansari during a speech in the Lok Sabha in the last Parliament session.

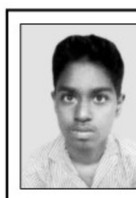
Mr. Modi, in a speech on July 3 during the Motion of Thanks to the President, without naming Mr. Ansari, said, "No matter how many numbers they claim, when we came in 2014, our strength in the Rajya Sabha was very low, and the Chair's inclination was somewhat on the other side."

Mr. Ramesh, in his letter to Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, said that even if the Prime Minister did not specifically take Mr. Ansari's name, "these derogatory remarks were attributed to Mr. Ansari".

The accusation attributed to him of "leaning" towards the Opposition made by the Prime Minister "is wholly unacceptable and grossly derogatory to say the least, apart from being completely false," Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh said that no Prime Minister had ever attacked a former Speaker of the Lok Sabha or Chairman of the Rajya Sabha in this manner in the past. "The Prime Minister has broken all parliamentary norms, decorum and, as a matter of fact, set a new low to the dignity of the very office of the Prime Minister of India," Mr. Ramesh noted.

APPEAL



I am **Ponvannan** aged 24 years advised to undergo CARDIAC CATHERISATION AND PERMANENT PACEMAKER IMPLANTATION at The Madras Medical Mission, Chennai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 3,50,000/-**. My family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help me to undergo the surgery and lead a healthy life. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No:60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

PONVANNAN

India, Russia to boost bilateral trade to $100 billion by 2030

At 22nd Annual Summit, Modi and Putin agree on cooperation in sectors such as energy, infrastructure development and agriculture; discussions also held on improving connectivity and using national currencies to circumvent Western sanctions

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to $100 billion dollars by 2030, including the use of national currencies to circumvent Western sanctions, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin sat down for the 22nd Annual Summit here on Tuesday.

The leaders agreed to a cooperation statement on projects in Russia's Far East that Mr. Putin has been focused on developing. A joint vision statement on trade and economic cooperation by the end of the decade looked at nine issues including the elimination of non-tariff barriers, the development of a "bilateral settlement system using national currencies", ironing out customs procedures and using new connectivity routes, including the Chennai-Vladivostok maritime route and Northern Sea Route and the International North-South Transport Corridor via Iran, investments in the energy sector including nuclear energy, infrastructure development and investment promotion as "priority areas".

In tandem: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a meeting at the Kremlin in Moscow on Tuesday. REUTERS

In addition, India and Russia signed a number of MoUs between institutions on climate change, polar research, legal arbitration and pharmaceutical certification and other issues.

Earlier, addressing about 500 members of the Indian diaspora in Russia, Mr. Modi announced that Russia had agreed to India's request to open consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg to help facilitate services for the growing community.

The bilateral trade target set by the leaders should be reasonably easy to achieve, given that, already, trade stands at around $65 billion, mostly because of the surge in India's imports of Russian crude at discount after the invasion of Ukraine led to the oil sanctions by the U.S. and Europe. In his preliminary comments, Mr. Putin said Russia-India trade grew by 66% last year and 20% just in the first quarter of 2024.

Achieving the target would catapult the business relationship to levels of trade India currently has only with bigger economies such as the U.S., China and the European Union.

Asked about the target, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said it was "an expression of the ambition by the two leaders for the larger economic relationship which includes the trade relationship", and said that Mr. Modi particularly stressed broad-basing the trade basket of goods between the two countries.

The focus on economic issues was a shift from previous Annual Summits where military supplies and the defence and strategic partnership between the two countries had been at the top of the agenda.

Officials said that the two leaders discussed the delay in defence supplies, and have committed to exploring more areas of co-production of defence equipment such as the India-Russia joint venture for assault rifles that could fill the domestic gap as well as facilitate export to other countries.

The Prime Minister accepted Russia's highest civilian honour, the Order of St Andrew the Apostle, an award that had been announced by President Putin in 2019, but could only be presented now. He also invited Mr. Modi to return in a few months to the Russian city of Kazan where he will host the first "Extended BRICS" summit.

Russia offers compensation, citizenship to kin of Indians killed in war against Ukraine

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

As Russian President Vladimir Putin accepted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's request for early discharge of Indians hired as security helpers and forced to fight alongside the Russian Army against Ukraine, it has emerged that Moscow is offering a compensation package and citizenship to the families of the deceased.

Meanwhile, the families of those stuck in Russia are demanding a time-bound assurance on when they would be discharged as it has been more than six months that their kin have been stuck in the war zone.

Months after his son was killed in a Ukrainian air strike in Russia, Ashvinbhai Mangukiya from Gujarat said that he was willing to accept Russian citizenship. "What is there in India? We are ready to move to Russia if everything falls in place. I am ready to give up Indian citizenship," Mr. Mangukiya told The *Hindu*. India does not allow dual citizenship.

His son, Hemil Mangukiya, 23, who was hired as a helper for the Russian Army, was forced to participate in the ongoing war. He was killed on February 21 at Donetsk on the Russia-Ukraine border during a firing exercise with the Russian Army.

Families of people stuck in Russia want time-bound assurance on when they would be released

Mr. Mangukiya travelled to Russia to get his son's body in March, when he was informed that the family is entitled to a compensation of ₹1.3 crore, Russian citizenship, and a monthly stipend of ₹18,000 for minor children till they turn 18.

"They made us open a bank account in Russia. Already, ₹45 lakh has been deposited in the account. My son was unmarried. I will have to travel to Russia a couple of times more to get the citizenship process under way," Mr. Mangukiya said.

At least four Indians, including Hemil, have been killed in the ongoing war, while two are said to be missing. The bodies of only two of the deceased – Hemil and Mohammad Asfan, 31, from Hyderabad – have been brought back to India. At least 50 Indians are said to be serving in the Russian Army, and around 30 of them have approached the government to return.

The Hindu reported first on February 20 that Indians who travelled to Russia on tourist visas were offered jobs as security helpers but were forced to fight alongside the Russian military on the Russia-Ukraine border.

Asfan's brother, Mohammad Imran, said they had also received a similar offer. "When I went to Moscow to receive the body, the Russian authorities told us that my brother's wife, his two children, and our father are entitled to a ₹1.3-crore compensation. The children, if they wish to move to Russia, will be entitled to citizenship and free education and medical facilities," he said.

Aman Moun, from Matour village in Haryana, whose younger brother Sahil is stuck in Russia, said, "We have been hearing about such assurances for the past many days. Though we are happy that the Prime Minister raised the issue, we want to know when my brother will be home? He is injured and is scared that he might be sent to the war front."

PM raises Ukraine war during meet, says loss of lives is heart-breaking

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

As the optics of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Moscow and his embrace of Russian President Putin on Monday raised eyebrows in Washington and Kyiv, India rejected concerns about its ties with Russia. Mr. Modi raised the Ukraine war ahead of the summit at the Kremlin.

In their joint statement India and Russia highlighted the need for a peaceful resolution of the "conflict around Ukraine", the phrase reflecting Russia's claims.

"They noted with appreciation relevant proposals of mediation and good offices aimed at peaceful resolution of the conflict in accordance with international law and on the basis of the U.N. Charter," it read.

"I believe there is no peace on the battlefield, and solutions to the war can only be found through dialogue", Mr. Modi told Mr. Putin at the beginning of their formal talks on Tuesday. "Whether it is terrorism or conflict, the loss of lives especially of innocent children is heart-breaking. President Putin and I have spoken frankly and I want to tell the international community that is closely watching our meeting that I am filled with hope from his words and thinking," he added.

Mr. Putin said that he "appreciated" Mr. Modi's attention to the "most pressing issues" including his efforts to "find ways to resolve the Ukraine crisis through peaceful means".

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy reacted to the timing of the meeting, on a day Ukraine claimed Russia fired more than 40 missiles at various locations including a children's hospital, killing 42.

In a post on social media platforms, he said that the meeting was disappointing. "It is a huge disappointment and a devastating blow to peace efforts to see the leader of the world's largest democracy [India] hug the world's most bloody criminal in Moscow on such a day," Mr. Zelenskyy said.

In Washington, the State Department spokesperson said that the U.S. has consistently raised its "concerns" about India's relationship with Russia. Spokesperson Mathew Miller said that the U.S. "urges" India to make it clear that the resolution to the Ukraine conflict must respect the U.N. Charter, Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Government officials said that "India has always called for respecting the U.N. Charter, including territorial integrity and sovereignty", at U.N. platforms.

New Delhi and Moscow call for 'zero tolerance' towards terrorism

Press Trust Of India
MOSCOW

India and Russia on Tuesday called for "zero tolerance" for terrorism and pressed for an "uncompromising fight" against the international menace as they stressed the importance of increasing global cooperation without hidden agendas and double standards, in a veiled jibe at Pakistan and its all-weather ally China.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves as he departs for Austria from Moscow on Tuesday. ANI

In a joint statement issued after the talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin here, the two sides strongly condemned the dastardly terrorist attacks, including one on an Army convoy in Kathua area of Jammu & Kashmir on Monday, and stressed that these terrorist attacks are a grim reminder for further strengthening cooperation to combat terrorism.

"The leaders unequivocally condemned terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations including the cross-border movement of terrorists, and terrorism financing networks and safe havens," the joint statement said.

'Uncompromising fight'

The two sides called for "an uncompromising fight against international terrorism and extremism" in all their forms and manifestations, noting the importance of increasing cooperation in this area, without hidden agendas and double standards on the solid basis of international law and the UN Charter, in an apparent reference to Pakistan and its all-weather ally China which has often put on hold on proposals in the United Nations to blacklist the Pakistan-based wanted terrorists.

Besides, they stressed the need for firm implementation of relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council, the UN General Assembly, as well as the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the joint statement said.

After the two-day visit to Russia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday departed for Austria.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
website: www.pspcl.in | Contact No. 96461-18773

TENDER ENQUIRY No.: Q-4025/24-25/PO-T/CE-MM

Chief Purchase Office/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor, Multi Storey Building, The Mall, PSPCL invites E-tender of 12360 Nos., Single Phase, 10 kVA, ISI Marked, EEL-1, oil immersed, CRGO/Amorphous core, Aluminium wound, distribution transformers complete with fittings as per PSPCL specifications & conforming to IS 1180 Part-1 (2014) & IS 2026 (with latest amendments). For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 10.07.2024 onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C - 410/24 76155/12/3078/2023/35460

KERALA BANK
PB No.6515, COBANK TOWERS,
VIKAS BHAVAN P.O, PALAYAM,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN-695033

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are invited from Public Sector Insurance Companies (Through its Regional Offices or Divisional Offices), General Insurance Companies promoted by Public Sector Banks or from Insurance Broking Companies approved by IRDA representing the Public Sector Insurance Companies and General Insurance Companies promoted by Public Sector Banks for the renewal of Group Medical Insurance policies of the Bank. E-tender documents can be obtained from e-tender website of Kerala State Govt. (www.etenders.kerala.gov.in) and details are also available in the Bank'sWebsite www.keralabank.co.in The last date of submission of E-tenders is 23/07/2024 before 6.00 p.m

Trivandrum
09/07/2024
sd/-
Chief Executive Officer

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices: Purchase Department, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027,
Website: www.bmtc.in e-mail:cosp@mybmtc.com
No. BMTC/COSP/STR/SDS/188/2024-25 Date: 09.07.2024

"e"-Auction Notice

Scrap Materials available at BMTC will be sold through e-Auction to be conducted by **M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking)**. The e-Auction schedule is as under: **(1) Scrapped Materials Date of e-Auction: 16.07.2024.** The interested bidders may log onto **www.mstcecommerce.com** for further details and registration. They may also contact M/s. M.S.T.C Ltd., at below mentioned address for needful clarification. **Address:** M/.s M.S.T.C. LTD., No.19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunningham Road, Bangalore- 560 052. Contact phone Nos: 080-22260054, 22266417, 22287356, FAX No. 080- 22256365 BMTC Contact phone Nos: + 91 7760991988 / 7760991157.

Sd/-CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES

MUNICIPAL BOAR, NATHDWARA DIST.- RAJSAMAND
S.No./M.B.Nath/Nirman/2024/8766 Date : 26-06-24

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for different works Nit No. 06 /2024-25 of Municipal Board Nathdwara are invited from interested bidders up to date 15-07-2024 on 18:00 Hours. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state govt.

UBN No. – 1-DLB2425SLOB01598

Raj.Samwad/C/24/1928 Commissioner

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking), Sankaramangalam, Kollam 691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 217, E-mail: md@kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Tender ID	Items
2024_KMML_679101_1	For the supply of 4250 No of Wooden Pallet-Export quality

Chavara 09.07.2024 Sd/-Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.

MATSYAFED
E-TENDER NOTICE

Mfed/Mktg/M1/5531/2024-25 05/07/2024

Matsyafed invites online bids in two bid system (Technical & Financial) for the supply of **Nylon multifilament twine, Nylon Multifilament Webbings, Nylon Monofilament Twine, Nylon Monofilament Webbings, HDPE Twine for Cages & Deep sea fishing, HDPE Fishnet Webbings, HDPE/PP Ropes, PVC Fishing Float, Plastic Fishing Float, Dyes, Fish Net Resin, HDPE Woven Sacks, Plastic Crates, Insulated Boxes, Life Saving Appliances, HDPE T&B Twine, Plastic Basket (Round crates)** to the net factories and OBM Division.

Last date of submission of e-bid: **20/07/2024**
Date of opening of E-bid: **24/07/2024**
For details visit:
http://etenders.kerala.gov.in.
Further clarifications/ Corrigendum in this regard will only be put up on **www.matsyafed.in.**

Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

KERALA STATE CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION FOR FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (MATSYAFED)
KAMALESWARAM, MANACAUD P.O.,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695009
Phone: 0471-2458606, 2457756, 2457172
Website: www.matsyafed.in
Email: matsyafed@matsyafed.in
D3/390/2024/I&PRD

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, 2945646)
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/28-RT/2024 Date : 09.07.2024

Re-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of following categories of drugs for the year 2024-25.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/ED/ACD/RT/2024/015 dtd. 09.07.2024	Drugs	37

Schedule of dates

	Date	Time
Last date of online uploading of tenders	27.07.2024	05.00 pm. onwards
Date of technical bid opening	31.07.2024	11.00 am. onwards

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**. **(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR** (Tender Inviting Authority)

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala
Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact number 96461-47777)

OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY NO. TSQ-1153/TD-III/2024-25

Dy. CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tenders for Design, Manufacturing, Supply, Testing, Laying & Commissioning of 66kV single core XLPE (Aluminium/ Copper) U/G Cable along with accessories on Turnkey Basis for the works as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1153/ TD-III/2024-25. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to http://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 09.07.2024 from 11:00 AM onwards.

Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C - 411/24 76155/12/3081/2023/35464

Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd.
(Govt of Telangana Undertaking)
"Parishrama Bhavan", 6th Floor, 5-9-58/B, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad, PIN:500004, Telangana
Ph: 23237625, 23240205, Email: vcmd@tgiic.telangana.gov.in

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Exponential growth in the Hyderabad Knowledge City, Raidurg area has resulted in increased traffic and lead to traffic snarls and congestion. To overcome this, Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited (TGIIC) intends to engage Consultancy Services to prepare a **Feasibility Report** and **Detailed Project Report (DPR)** for Improvement of corridor connectivity (Flyover) from Durgam Cheruvu Cable Stayed Bridge (End of I-Labs) to Shilpa Layout Flyover (via T-hub) with an approximate length of 2.2 Km including approaches.

The RFP can be downloaded from **www.tgiic.telangana.gov.in** from 10.07.2024. Last date for submission of Proposals: 09.08.2024, 15.00Hrs (IST). Further updates on this tender will be available in this website only.

Sd\-
VICE CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR

DIPR R.O. No. : 167-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25

अजमेर विकास प्राधिकरण, अजमेर
Email :- ajmerada@gmail.com,
Website :- www.rajasthan.gov.in/ada, Tel.No. :- 0145-2627748-2627749

क्रमांक :- अविप्रा/प.2/तकनीकी/2024-25/1283 दिनांक :- 05/07/2024

E-Tender - 04 / 2024-25

Bids for work- Proving Renovation of Jawhar Rangmanch Rs 492.91 Lacs & Construction of sub base Road & CD work at DD puram scheme phase-2 Rs. 400.00 Lacs are invited from interested bidders up to 31/07/2024, 6:00 pm. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in)** & **(http://sppp.raj.nic.in) http://www.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/ada** departmental website.

UBN No. :- AJD2425WSOB00035- 38 **Executive Engineer**

Raj.Samwad/C/24/1970 **Ajmer Development Authority, Ajmer**

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

Department of Fisheries Invites Bids on e-Procurement Platform (www.tender.telangana.gov.in) for supply of Fish Seed District wise for the year 2024-25

Advt. No. CF-C/2/1/2024-DDIND **Tender Notice** Date: 10-07-2024

Short Tender Notification time schedule of various Tender related events

Bid calling date**10.07.2024** Downloading of Bid document **10.07.2024 (from 11.00 AM)** to **20.07.2024 (up to 12.00 Noon),** Pre-bid conference date/time **12.07.2024 from 11.00 AM,** O/o Director of Fisheries, Hyderabad, Last date/time for clarification**12.07.2024, 5.00 PM** Bid Submission Starting date **15.07.2024, 11.00 AM** onwards Bid closing date/time **23.07.2024, 3.00 PM** Bid opening date/time **23.07.2024, 3.30 PM** Bid Document Fee **Rs.25,000/-** Contact person name and phone number **T. Srinivas Deputy Director of Fisheries (Inland) Phone No.040 23376251/ 9849403752 E-Mail: dftelangana@gmail.com**

If you are interested in participation, please visit web site at **www.tender.telangana.gov.in** and **www.fisheries.telangana.gov.in** and District wise bid documents can be downloaded free of cost from the above website.

DIPR No. 164-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT./1/2024-25
Sd/- Dr.Priyanka Ala
DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES

INBRIEF

SFJ declared unlawful association for 5 more years

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs on Tuesday declared Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) an "unlawful association" under the UAPA for another five years. SFJ, a group advocating secessionist and pro-Khalistani activities in India, was first banned on July 10, 2019. It said that SFJ is encouraging activities for secession of a part of the Indian territory and supporting separatist groups fighting for this purpose in India and elsewhere by indulging in activities intended to disrupt the sovereignty of India. The group was founded in 2007 with Avtar Singh Pannun as its president, and U.S based lawyer and pro-Khalistani activist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun as its legal adviser.

HC rejects plea against Dalai Lama over kissing video row

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed a petition to take action against the Dalai Lama, over a video clip which went viral in April 2023, where he was seen kissing a boy on the lips and asking him to "suck his tongue", saying the Tibetan spiritual leader was being "playful and trying to humour the child". The PIL filed by the 'Confederation of NGOs' stated that the video went viral without hiding the identity of the eight-year-old minor boy, urged the Court to pass directions to the authorities to take cognisance of the incident under POCSO Act. The High Court, however, said the PIL could not be entertained and the incident was "not premeditated".

CBI arrests two more in NEET-UG paper leak case

CBI team also questions the uncle of one of the accused candidates in Gaya; investigation on to trace the time of leak and at what point of the chain of command had the breach occurred

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The Central Bureau of Investigation on Tuesday arrested two more accused in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) paper leak case. Sunny Kumar, a candidate from Nalanda, and Ranjit Kumar, father of a candidate from Gaya, were arrested here, agency sources said.

So far, 27 people have been arrested by the Bihar Police Economic Offences Unit (EOU) and the CBI in the case. The federal agency has alone arrested nine from Bihar.

Sunny Kumar is the fifth accused. The arrested "solver gang" members include Panku Kumar and Paramjit Singh, alias Bittu, from Chhabilapur; Rajeev Kumar, alias Karu, from Ekangarsarai; Baldev Kumar, alias Chintu, from Gulariya Bigha, all in Nalanda district.

Sanjeev Mukhiya, who is believed to be the kingpin of an inter-State gang involved in the case, and his relative Rocky, alias Rajesh Ranjan, are absconding. Both are from Nalanda.

NSUI activists raising slogans during their protest at Jantar Mantar against the alleged irregularities in NEET-UG, in New Delhi. PTI

The CBI team searched the house of Shivnandan Kumar, one of the accused in the case already in jail, on Tuesday morning. He is a candidate whose name was revealed in a confessional statement by Sikandar Prasad Yadavendu, a junior engineer in the Danapur Municipal Corporation who had dropped four candidates at one place in Patna on the eve of the test to memorise the answers of the leaked questions.

The four candidates later confessed that the same question paper they got early was used for the May 5 test.

Sources said seven members of the CBI team reached Haraiya village in the Barachatti police station limits in Gaya to collect evidence. After seven hours of interrogation, they detained Shivnandan's uncle Niranjan Yadav but left him after interrogation. The CBI was also looking for Shivnandan's father, Ramswaroop Yadav, alias Sadhu Yadav, but could not locate him.

The CBI team questioned other family members of Shivnandan, who had allegedly reached a deal for ₹40 lakh to get the question paper and is believed to have paid half the amount on the test eve.

It is not known from where had the CBI arrested Sunny Kumar. The agency had earlier arrested Ahsanul Haque, principal of Oasis School, Hazaribagh, a test centre, and vice-principal Imtiaz Alam and a Hindi newspaper journalist Jamaluddin, who had assisted them on the day of the test.

The EOU had earlier said that a partially burnt question paper seized from a play school in Patna matched with the question paper received from the National Testing Agency, and the question paper from the same series was sent to the test centre at Oasis School.

Sources said the CBI was investigating the chain of custody of the question paper. Statements of several persons had been recorded from test centres in other States as well. An in-depth investigation is on to find out at what time the question paper was leaked and at what point of the chain of custody.

HC disposes of plea to charge BJP MLAs with hate speech

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Police say words such as Rohingya, Bangladeshis and jihadis do not target any community or religion in India

The Mumbai Police on Tuesday justified their decision not to invoke Section 295A of the Indian Penal Code against BJP leaders Nitesh Rane, T. Raja Singh and Geeta Jain, by submitting before the Bombay High Court that words such as Rohingya, Bangladeshis and jihadis do not target any community or religion in India. Section 295A is slapped to charge a person with maliciously insulting the religion or religious beliefs of any class.

After hearing the arguments, a Division Bench of Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Shyam Chandak disposed of the petition, noting that most of the prayers sought by the petitioners had already been fulfilled. "A conscious statement is made by the highest officers of the police departments in Mumbai and Mira-Bhayander, not to invoke Section 295A. We accept the statement. Leave is granted to the petitioners to seek for invocation of Section 295A at the appropriate stage [framing of charges] before an appropriate forum," it said.

The petitioners had sought action against the MLAs for allegedly giving communally charged hate speeches against Muslims in Ghatkopar, Malwani, Mankhurd and Kashimira in January.

The petitioners said that in his speeches in Ghatkopar, Malwani and Kashimira, Mr. Rane addressed the Muslim community living in Mumbai and in India as Rohingya, Bangladeshis, and jihadis. Mr. Raja and Ms. Jain delivered speeches along similar lines in Kashimira, they said. The petitioners sought an FIR against the MLAs, and urged the Bench to invoke Section 295A against them saying that the speeches were made after communal violence in the areas.

Public prosecutor Hiten Venegaonkar argued that no case was made out to invoke Section 295A.

"The entire statement is against Rohingya and Bangladeshis. The provision in question is for outraging sentiments of Indians, and admittedly the Rohingya and Bangladeshis are not from India," Mr. Venegaonkar said.

SC flays States for not setting up adoption agencies

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court was compelled on Tuesday to initiate "coercive proceedings" against 29 States and Union Territories for not complying with a November 2023 order to set up Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs), meant to streamline the adoption process of abandoned and surrendered children, in every district.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said 370 out of 760 districts in the country did not have functional SAAs according to an affidavit filed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

The court directed the States to set up SAAs and file compliance affidavits on or before August 30.

Apex Kuki tribes body calls for 12-hour shutdown in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), an apex body of Kuki tribes in Manipur, on Tuesday called for a 12-hour shutdown across all Kuki-Zo dominated districts of the State over the arrest of five purported village volunteers from their community by the security forces in the last two days, with some women's groups of the Kuki-Zo community alleging that personnel of the security forces had beaten local women who were protesting the detention.

The latest of the arrests came early on Tuesday morning in Kangpokpi district, with the Manipur police stating that the three individuals arrested were "armed cadres of an underground outfit", who were later handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The police denied allegations levelled against the security forces about their conduct during the operations.

Ammunition seized

The three persons arrested were identified by the police as Thangjoel Haokip, Jangjoulen Khongsai, and Jangminlun Singson, with the police adding they also recovered two AK rifles, one MA-1 MK3 rifle, and one SBBL along with over 1,000 rounds of assorted ammunitions.

The KIM said these arrests and detentions come even as Central and State forces were allegedly "turning a blind eye" to the movement and activities of the Meitei militants and Arambai Tenggol in the Imphal area.

Centre holds review of NEP with States, to chart five-year action plan

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

The Union Education Ministry on Tuesday began a two-day meeting to review the progress of the National Education Policy's implementation in States and Union Territories.

The meeting on Tuesday was attended by representatives of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, State Councils of Educational Research and Training, Central Board of Secondary Education, and Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalaya representatives.

Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, School Education, said the main aim of the meeting was reviewing the NEP, 2020 and its implementation and alignment of the flagship schemes of the Ministry, such as Samagra Shiksha, PM SHRI, PM Poshan and ULLAS. He said the meeting would help in developing an NEP road map for the coming five years.

Mr. Kumar said discussions would be held on the five-year action plan; 100-day action plan; status of the progress of infrastructure and civil works, ICT and smart classrooms under Samagra Shiksha; discussion on the status and setting up of Vidya Samiksha Kendras and 200 educational channels; finalisation of data for the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+) for 2023-24; best practices; District Institutes of Education and Training: upgrade as Centres of Excellence; and need for tobacco control in schools.

Official sources told *The Hindu* that Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha might

Sanjay Kumar

come on board PM-SHRI under the NEP by mid-July. However, States such as Delhi, West Bengal and Punjab were still at loggerheads with the Centre over various facets of NEP implementation.

"The implications of coming on board are to ensure seamless transition of students migrating to different universities and ensuring transfer of credits smoothly, one of the long-term visions of the National Credit Framework under NEP, 2020," a source said.

During the review, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that in its four years of implementation, the NEP had made considerable progress.

He stressed the importance of education in the mother tongue and in Indian languages, and urged the States to work as a unit with the Centre to replicate best practices.

In a first, the Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur said it would start offering its B.Tech. programme in Hindi and English, and two sections would be identified based on preferences for lectures in respective languages. "The institute has further mentioned that the courses will be taught in both languages by the same instructor to ensure the same rigour," said Ravi Ginger, Assistant Registrar, Office of Academic Affairs, IIT-Jodhpur.

Only Sanskrit getting govt. attention, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday said the Centre was providing "handsome" support only for Sanskrit among classical languages.

"So far, the Centre has supported only Sanskrit handsomely. That is fine. But what about the other classical Indian languages, which are not merely regional but are national languages as well?" Mr. Ramesh said in a post on X.

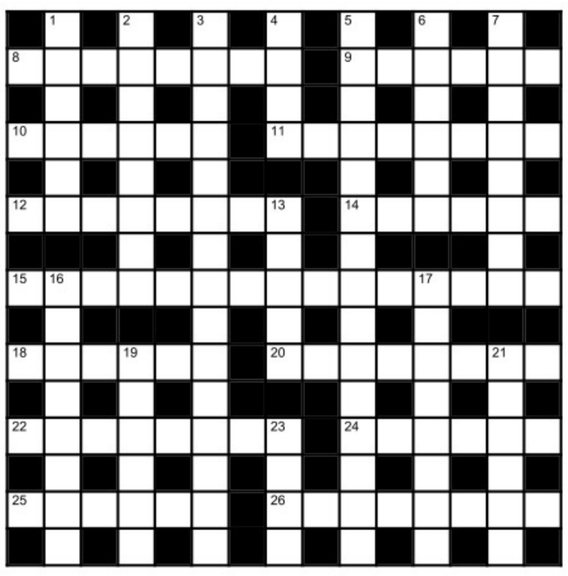
Taking note of *The Hindu* report on the government planning to change the criteria for classical language classification, he sought to know if the Maharashtra government would have to resubmit its application to meet the new criteria for recognition of Marathi as a classical language.

TH CROSSWORD + 14223

(set by Crescent)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Puritans expressing resistance with sickly slop (8)
9 Case of lives lost assuming focus in war (6)
10 Steal closer to target base in centre of activity (6)
11 Intimate friend about her missing husband and child (8)
12 Participants in rave serving men are wearing briefs (8)
14 Note storing name and number in portion of memory (6)
15 Versatile jobber primarily called for task, a handyman (4,2,3,6)
18 Decision outing king can bar king's outing (6)
20 Intensified action implicating English writer (8)
22 Backbone many a time is bent (8)
24 Jug over fire (4,2)
25 Dumb lot touching skirts a bit tight (6)
26 Family dons privy to probe (4,4)

Down

1 Humour leading lady's shrink (6)
2 'Star Trek' Cassie's stuffing mix (8)
3 Edit bare proof introducing section creating more variety (15)
4 Forward somersault (4)
5 Without exception, all fresh heroes try new moves (5,7,3)
6 Area like niche essentially inset? (6)
7 Slice of meat left by duck occupies fly (8)
13 Sound one flogged stifles (5)
16 Friendly guy's a mile ahead (8)
17 Pirate at sea providing drink to whet appetite (8)
19 (Nought minus X) plus (X over Y) = a real number (6)
21 Parallel universe at origin bit beyond energy source of quasar (6)
23 Cry from chicken, not painful cry (4)

SUDOKU

			2		3	1		
	7	5						
4					7		3	
	4				6			
9		7				3		5
			4				7	
	2		1					8
						7	2	
		8	7		2			

No.SS6215 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

	P	A		S		A		I	S	E
F	O	W	L		I	S	L	A	M		H	E	L	P
	R		L		E		L		P		O		K	
S	T	U	N	T	S		E	U	L	O	G	I	S	E
			I		T		G		O		U			
D	I	S	G	R	A	C	E		D	O	N	K	E	Y
	C		H				S		E				J	
S	H	O	T	G	U	N		A	D	H	E	R	E	D
	O				N		L				N		C	
C	R	A	V	E	N		I	M	P	O	L	I	T	E
			I		E		O		I		A			
H	O	N	D	U	R	A	N		C	U	R	A	R	E
	M		E		V		E		K		G		A	
T	A	C	O		E	A	S	E	L		E	A	S	T
	R		S		S		S		E		S		P	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	6	5	1	8	9	2	4	7
2	4	1	3	7	6	8	5	9
9	8	7	4	5	2	1	3	6
6	5	4	7	9	1	3	8	2
1	9	2	6	3	8	4	7	5
8	7	3	5	2	4	6	9	1
4	3	9	2	6	5	7	1	8
5	1	6	8	4	7	9	2	3
7	2	8	9	1	3	5	6	4

FAITH

Arjuna's penance

Faced with adversities, devotees often wonder why God is testing them. Exhibiting patience to forbear ill deeds until the right time to fight back and unwavering faith in God are the correct *margams*, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh in a discourse. In the forests of Dwaitavanam, Draupadi tells Yudhishthira that one should get angry with wrongdoers and retaliate. Dharmaraja advocates patience. When Bheema too advocates taking a tough stand, Vyasa arrives there and suggests that Arjuna undertake penance and procure Siva's Pasupatha *astram* in order to take on the Kauravas in warfare.

Arjuna undertakes severe penance. Parvati recommends to Siva that he donate the *astram*, with one proviso: She must see Arjuna's back. Attired as hunters, Siva and Parvati arrive at the forest. Duryodhana sends an asura, disguised as a porcupine, to take out Arjuna. Both Arjuna and Siva kill the beast at the same time and both fight over whose arrow killed it. Siva aims his arrows at Arjuna's side, hoping to make him turn his back, but to no avail. Running out of arrows, Arjuna hits Siva with the bow. Siva wrestles Arjuna to the ground, but the warrior lands on his back. The hunters disappear. Arjuna, realising that it is none other than Siva, prays again. Siva reappears as the hunter, gifts his *astram*, shares the mantra with him.

INBRIEF

'Financial inclusion index rose with growth across segments'

The Reserve Bank's FI-Index rose to 64.2 in March 2024, showing growth across all parameters. The index captures information on various aspects of financial inclusion in a single value ranging between 0 and 100, where 0 represents complete financial exclusion and 100 indicates full financial inclusion. "The value of the index for March 2024 stands at 64.2 vis-à-vis 60.1 in March 2023, with growth witnessed across all sub-indices," RBI said on Tuesday. PTI

ONGC to invest ₹2 lakh cr. to meet net zero emission target

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) said it will invest about ₹2 lakh crore in setting up renewable energy sites and green hydrogen plants and cutting gas flaring to zero to achieve its 2038 net-zero carbon emission goal. ONGC, which produces about two-thirds of India's crude oil, on Tuesday released a 200-page document, detailing its path to achieving net zero emissions, even as it looks to boost its hydrocarbon output to meet the country's energy needs. PTI

Cognizant pays ₹4 cr. to settle Wipro's lawsuit vs CFO Dalal

Cognizant Technology Solutions said its Chief Financial Officer Jatin Dalal had reached a settlement in the non-compete lawsuit filed by his former employer Wipro, with a payment of $505,087 (about ₹4 crore). According to a regulatory filing Cognizant made with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on Tuesday, the Compensation and Human Capital Committee of the Board of Directors of the company approved the payment on July 2, 2024.

'Note ban, GST, COVID cost ₹11.3 lakh cr. and 1.6 cr. informal jobs'

In FY23, GVA by unincorporated businesses was 1.6% below FY16 levels, says India Ratings; estimates 63 lakh informal enterprises shut down

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Costly shocks

'The informal sector suffered economic loss and destruction of jobs in the wake of demonetisation, GST roll-out, pandemic'

- The loss, particularly to the informal sector is estimated at 4.3% of GDP in 2022-23
- Rating firm draws data from recently released official ASUSE survey
- Unorganised sector contributes more than 44% to India's GVA

The economic loss, particularly to the informal sector owing to the cumulative impact of macroeconomic shocks since 2016, including the demonetisation of high-value currency notes, the roll-out of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the COVID-19 pandemic, is estimated at 4.3% of GDP in 2022-23 or ₹11.3 lakh crore, India Ratings and Research said on Tuesday.

Noting that the sector was "severely impacted" by the macroeconomic shocks, India Ratings' principal economist Sunil Kumar Sinha estimated that 63 lakh informal enterprises shut down between 2015-16 and 2022-23, with about 1.6 crore jobs lost. "This period also coincided with the rise in the formalisation of the economy, which led to robust tax collections. While formalisation of the economy is the way forward, the reduced unorganised sector footprint has implications for employment generation," Mr. Sinha said.

In FY23, the Gross-Value Added (GVA) in the economy by such unincorporated enterprises was still 1.6% below FY16 levels. Moreover, their compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) was 7.4% between FY11 and FY16, but slid into a 0.2% contraction since then, the rating firm reckoned based on the recently released findings of the official Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE).

As per the survey, the number of establishments in the non-agricultural sector rose to 6.5 crore in FY23 from 5.97 crore in FY22, with employment rising to 10.96 crore from 9.79 crore workers. However, this was lower than the 11.13 crore people employed in the sector in the 'pre-shock period' of FY16. This was primarily due to a decline in manufacturing jobs which stood at 3.06 crore in FY23, compared with 3.6 crore in FY16.

The latest data suggests that the real GVA of unincorporated firms in manufacturing, trade and other services (MTO) was ₹9.51 lakh crore in FY23, with an 18.2% share in India's real MTO GVA, falling sharply from 25.7% in FY16.

'Sharper shrinkage'

"The shrinkage has been sharper in other services and trade... the informal sector's share dropped to 32.3% and 21.2% in FY23 from the pre-shock level of 46.9% and 34.3%, respectively. In the manufacturing sector, the share of the informal sector fell to 10.2%, from 12.5% during the same period," it said.

The unorganised sector contributes over 44% to India's GVA and employs almost 75% of the work force employed in non-agricultural enterprises, as per the 2022-23 Periodic Labour Force Survey.

The size of unincorporated sector enterprises (USE) was ₹15.4 lakh crore in FY23, growing at a CAGR of 4.3% between FY16 and FY23, compared with a CAGR of 12.9% recorded between FY11 and FY16.

June equity MF inflows rise fourfold to ₹40,608 cr.: AMFI

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

MFs' net AUM was ₹60 lakh crore in June, an increase of ₹10 lakh crore since December 2023

Equity mutual funds rose 370% to ₹40,608.19 crore in June 2024, from ₹8,637.49 crore in June 2023, data released by Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) show.

But after two successive months of higher inflows, MFs witnessed net outflows of ₹43,637 crore for the first time since the beginning of FY25.

Indian mutual fund sector's net asset under management crossed ₹60 lakh crore in June 2024, a rise of ₹10 lakh crore since December 2023.

"The industry benefited from sustained flows into equity-oriented MFs, hybrid and passive funds," said Venkat Chalasani, CEO, AMFI releasing the monthly data, adding the sector is working to foster financial well-being for all stakeholders.

Mirae Asset looking to set up global centre in a key Indian city: CEO

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Swarup Mohanty

Mirae Asset Investment Managers (India) Pvt. Ltd. is exploring the possibility of setting up a Global Capability Centre (GCC) in one of the major Indian cities, said Vice Chairman and CEO Swarup Mohanty.

"We are assessing the possibility of setting it up in one of the Indian cities. It will be the first GCC to set be up outside of South Korea," Mr. Mohanty told journalists.

According to him, the "India's fastest growing fund house" will be assessing the capability to house electronic traded funds in the back-end along with other administrative functions. Besides, AI will be set up to support India business as well as to be the back-end of Mirae Asset global endeavours.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,352	0.49
US Dollar	83.49	0.01
Gold	73,310	-0.13
Brent oil	84.73	-1.20

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3110.75	-2.85
Adani Ports	1478.00	2.70
Apollo Hosp	6320.30	2.85
Asian Paints	2905.00	6.85
Axis Bank	1289.40	1.55
Bajaj Auto	9534.10	4.70
Bajaj Finserv	1581.60	11.50
Bajaj Finance	7068.05	-30.20
Bharti Airtel	1435.55	0.40
BPCL	300.20	0.70
Britannia Ind	5668.85	100.30
Cipla	1512.05	25.00
Coal India	493.80	0.50
Divis Lab	4551.95	87.75
Dr Reddys Lab	6582.85	48.70
Eicher Motors	4828.70	74.25
Grasim Ind	2761.80	19.65
HCL Tech	1531.10	-2.30
HDFC Bank	1636.50	1.15
HDFC Life	623.65	2.75
Hero MotoCorp	5589.15	87.25
Hindalco	707.00	9.80
Hind Unilever	2590.15	3.00
ICICI Bank	1248.25	13.20
IndusInd Bank	1434.25	-3.80
Infosys	1657.15	-4.50
ITC	452.60	9.00
JSW Steel	935.30	-3.90
Kotak Bank	1847.85	-5.35
L&T	3666.10	34.10
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5377.15	-12.55
M&M	2925.50	74.15
Maruti Suzuki	12827.70	804.10
NestleIndia	2633.10	29.70
NTPC	377.05	-0.40
ONGC	297.45	-1.70
PowerGrid Corp	341.15	1.75
Reliance Ind	3180.55	-21.25
SBI Life	1524.75	9.80
State Bank	861.30	5.05
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2792.00	-16.10
Sun Pharma	1585.40	29.00
TataConsumerProduct	1142.20	-8.60
Tata Motors	1014.95	12.35
Tata Steel	171.80	-0.48
TCS	3985.50	-7.70
Tech Mahindra	1465.75	-1.85
Titan	3215.15	58.95
UltraTech Cement	11679.80	96.90
Wipro	541.00	-0.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 09

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.29	83.61
Euro	90.05	90.40
British Pound	106.58	107.00
Japanese Yen (100)	51.68	51.88
Chinese Yuan	11.45	11.50
Swiss Franc	92.70	93.06
Singapore Dollar	61.65	61.89
Canadian Dollar	61.04	61.28
Malaysian Ringitt	17.69	17.77
Australian Dollar	56.08	56.29

Source:Indian Bank

Minimum Support Price, loan waiver crucial issues for farmers

BUDGET IN FOCUS

Ashok Dhawale

Great expectations: Farmers expect this government to make a radical break from all its earlier Budgets. K.V.S.GIRI

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) faced huge setbacks in the Lok Sabha elections in the agrarian belts of the country.

This government is a continuation of the first two Narendra Modi regimes that favoured the corporate houses and tweaked policies in agriculture sector in their favour.

Rising farmer suicides

Farmers expect that this government make a radical break from all its earlier Budgets. Of course, this is asking for a tall order. But unless that is done, the farmers unrest and agrarian crisis are not going to subside. The National Crime Records Bureau data tells us that 1,00,474 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide between 2015 and 2022.

This is a tragic indication of the agrarian crisis in the country.

The most important issue for farmers in the country today is statutory minimum support price at the rate of C2+50%, that is one-and-a-half times the comprehensive cost of production, as recommended by the M.S. Swaminathan Commission. Unless that is done, it's going to be impossible even to begin to resolve the agrarian crisis. They will have to make Budgetary provisions to implement this. This is our first demand.

Cut input prices

The second point is about the cost of production, which is continuously rising. Our expectation from the Budget is they must cut down the cost of production by reducing the price of fertilizers, seeds, insecticides, diesel, water and electricity.

Rates of all these inputs are going up. A statutory MSP at a rate of C2+50% may have no meaning if the cost of production is not brought down.

The government should bring control through the Budget on the corporates who are producing the inputs. The Budget should help public sector companies engaged in the production of inputs.

Loan waiver

The third expectation from the Budget is that they give a complete one-time loan waiver for farmers and agricultural workers all over the country. Unless this is done, farm suicides cannot be prevented.

This government has written off loans worth about ₹16 lakh crore of corporates.

Loan waiver, bringing down the cost of production and ensuring MSP at a rate of C2+50 have to be done together. If this is done, 70% of the crisis in the agrarian sector can be dealt with.

The fourth point is relevant in the context of climate change and the environmental situation. In the light of continuous drought, flood, unseasonal rains and hailstorms, there should be a comprehensive crop insurance scheme, which is totally different from the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. Several States have opted out of it. Some States are starting their own scheme. This is because PMFBY is working in the interest of insurance companies, not of farmers.

Budgetary provision has to be made for a comprehensive scheme that helps farmers.

The fifth point is on the question of irrigation and power. Public sector investment in irrigation and power has been cut down in the last 10 years.

Irrigation projects

These sectors are being handed over to the private companies and hence, the cost of water and power is increasing. A number of irrigation projects are incomplete in the country. If they are completed, a large section of land will come under irrigation.

So, the Budget should have provisions to complete these irrigation projects. Power production is also now under the control of corporate houses. Smart meters are going to create havoc for all consumers, rural and urban.

Expand MNREGA

The sixth point is about the expansion of MGNREGA. Ever since the Modi Government came to power, they have been trying to starve MGNREGA of funds. The number of work days has come to just 42. The government will have to increase the wages to ₹600 and the number of days of work to at least 200.

Radical land reforms

The seventh point, which is very important, is the question of land.

The rulers have changed the slogan of 'Land to the Tiller' to 'Land to the Corporates'. In total violation of the Land Acquisition Act, there's massive acquisition of farm lands by corporate houses. Land acquisition must be done only when strictly necessary for a public purpose. Radical land reforms must be initiated and completed.

Restore corporate tax

To raise resources for all this, the Union government must impose wealth tax and inheritance tax. They have tremendously reduced corporate tax. They must restore it. Rich have to pay more income tax and the middle class should get some relief.

Direct taxes must be increased and indirect taxes must be reduced.

(Ashok Dhawale is a senior leader of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha and president of the All India Kisan Sabha)

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CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement portal only)

Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for (1) No. KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT1399/CALL3 Dated: 04.07.2024 for **Periodical Special Assistance and Annual Maintenance works of Generator Trasformers, Station Transformers, ICTs, Line & Bus reactors, Unit Auxiliary Transformers, Colony Power Supply Transformers & OLA Transformers and allied equipments for a period of 12 months.** EMD: **Rs. 89,408/-.** Last date for submission of completed tenders: **up to 16.30 hours on 11.07.2024.** (2) No. KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT1607, Dated: 04.07.2024 for **Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Networking system at KPCL DAV English Medium School at RTPS Colony, Shaktinagar.** EMD: **Rs. 46,000/-.** Last date for submission of completed tenders: **17.30 hours on 18.07.2024.** (3) No. KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_I NDENT1381, Dated: 16.03.2024 for **Rectification of Fire Alarm System of RPCL Quarters.** EMD: **Rs. 40,000/-.** Last date for submission of completed tenders: **17.30 hours on 11.07.2024.** (4) No. KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT1427/CALL-2, Dated: 04.07.2024 for **Routine, preventive/breakdown maintenance works and overhauling works of XRP-803 and XRP-903 bowl mills, raw coal feeders, seal air fans, PF pipes and bends, DPMRHS and their auxiliaries of Unit-5, 6, 7 & 8 for a period of one year 2024-25.** (5) No. KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT1430/CALL-2, Dated: 04.07.2024 for **Routine, preventive and breakdown maintenance of mill reject handling system (MRHS) and Conveyor belt of size 600mm width of Unit-5, 6 & 7 for a period of one year 2024-25.** (6) No. KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT1431/CALL-2, Dated: 04.07.2024 for **Housekeeping, removal of spillage coal, periodical clearing of drains & their disposal at designated places of mill area of Units 5 to 8 and clearing of reject coal in the pits of Unit 5 to 7 at RTPS.** Last date for submission of completed tenders: **up to 16.00 hrs on 12.07.2024** for Sl.No. (4), (5) & (6). (7) No. KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT1708/656, Dated: 05.07.2024 for **Improvement works to existing railway running room near YM office in marshaling yard area at RTPS.** Amount put to tender: **Rs. 14.84 Lakhs.** Completion Period: **Two (02) Months including monsoon period.** (8) No. KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT1560/CALL-2, Dated: 05.07.2024 for **providing, erection/reconditioning of double disc valve at Unit 5-8 AHP of RTPS.** Last date for submission of completed tenders: **16.00 hrs on 13.07.2024**. (9) No. KPCL/2024-25/AUCTION25, Dated: 03.07.2024 for **disposal of various types of scrap materials on "as is where is basis" like failed UAT transformer, jerry cans, empty MS oil barrels available at RTPS.** Last date to confirm participation: **on 19.07.2024**. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer(Transformer), M.No.: 9449596519** for Sl.No. (1), **Executive Engineer(Safety), M.No. 8277502793** for Sl.No. (2) & (3), **Executive Engineer(MM-2)RTPS, M.No. 9449596574, E-mail: eemm2rtps@gmail.com** for Sl.No. (4) to (6), **Executive Engineer(RTM), M.No. 9480682533** for Sl.No (7), **Executive Engineer(AHP-2), M.No.: 9449596551** for Sl.No. (8), **Executive Engineer (Stores)RTPS, M.No.: 8277502825** for Sl.No. (9), **RTPS,** KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District.

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ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: **itstaff_ulb_kolhar@gmail.com**
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಪ.ಪಂ.ಕೊ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/15ಹ.ಕಾ&ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:08.07.2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಕೊಲ್ಹಾರ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯ 2024–25 15 ನೇ ಹ.ಕಾ & ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಟಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ & ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ತೇವಣಿ (ಇಎಂಡಿ) ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫೀಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.07.2024 ಹಾಗೂ 12.07.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

1) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT20179,
2) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT20176,
3) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT2011
4) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20121
5) DMA/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT20083
6) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20133
7) DMA/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT8696/CALL-2
8) DMA/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT8624/CALL-2
9) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20184
10) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2018

ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕೊಲ್ಹಾರ
ಸಹಿ/– ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕೊಲ್ಹಾರ
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/97/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

No.:SEE/TWM/SMG/EE(O)/AEE-1/2024-25/F-Tender/1870-876 Date: 08.07.2024

K.P.T.C.L. invites tenders through KPP Portal mode from the reputed Electrical Contractors possessing Super Grade Electrical contractor License having PF registration for the following works.

1). Replacement of 1x10MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformer by 1x20MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformer at **110/11kV Ajjampura** Sub-station in Tarikere Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District on Partial Turnkey Basis comes under TL&SS Division, KPTCL, Chikkamagaluru (Allied Works Only).

2). Replacement of 1x8 MVA by 1x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Transformer at **66/11kV Lakkavalli** Sub-Station in Tarikere Taluk, Chikkamagalur District on Partial Turnkey Basis comes under TL&SS Division, KPTCL, Chikkamagaluru (Allied Works Only).

3). Replacement of 1x10MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer by 1X20 MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer at **110/11kV Sub Station Kittadahalli** in Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogga District on Partial Turnkey Basis comes under 400KV Station and SSM Division, KPTCL Talaguppa (Allied Works Only).

For detailed Information and to participate in the tender through KPP Portal mode please visit our website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** or directly you can access the tendering website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.00AM on 11.07.2024.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elec.),
Transmission (W&M)Circle, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana,
MRS Colony, Shivamogga - 577203, Phone: **08182 - 272624.**

GENEVA

Gaza children dying in Israel's 'starvation campaign': UN experts

AFP

The UN accused Israel of a "targeted starvation campaign" that has resulted in the deaths of children in Gaza. While the UN is yet to officially declare a famine on the Strip, the team of experts, including UN special rapporteur on the right to food Michael Fakhri, insisted there was no denying famine was under way. AFP

DUBAI

Yemen's Houthi rebels target ship in the Gulf of Aden, near Oman

REUTERS

A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship in the Gulf of Aden on Tuesday, the latest assault blamed on the group on the crucial maritime trade route. The captain of the ship reported an explosion near the vessel off the coast of Nishtun, Yemen, close to the border with Oman. AP

ISLAMABAD

UN chief meets Pakistan's PM to discuss Afghan refugee situation

AP

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, met Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday to discuss the situation of Afghan refugees living in uncertainty since Islamabad began a persistent anti-migrant crackdown last year. Pakistan has long hosted an estimated 1.7 million Afghans. AP

JAKARTA

Toll from landslip near illegal Indonesia gold mine rises to 23

AFP

The death toll from a landslip near an illegal gold mine on Indonesia's central island of Sulawesi has risen to 23 people, while 35 others are still missing, an official said on Tuesday. The landslip hit a remote village in the Bone Bolango district of Gorontalo province late Saturday following intense rains. AFP

Rescuers search for more bodies at children's hospital struck by Russia

Toll from Kremlin's attack across Ukraine rises to 42; strike on the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital interrupts open-heart surgery, forces young cancer patients to take their treatments outdoors; woman doctor among two killed at hospital

Associated Press
KYIV

Rescuers searched the rubble at a children's hospital on Tuesday for more dead and wounded, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, a day after Russian missiles slammed into the facility and cities across the country in a massive daytime barrage. The death toll from the strikes rose to 42, officials said.

Mr. Zelenskyy said on the social platform X that 64 people were hospitalised in the capital, as well as 28 in Kryvyi Rih and six in Dnipro – both cities in central Ukraine.

Collateral damage: Rescuers carrying the body of a person killed by a Russian missile strike in Kyiv. REUTERS

It was Russia's heaviest bombardment of Kyiv in almost four months and one of the deadliest of the war, hitting seven of the city's 10 districts. The strike on the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital, which interrupted open-heart surgery and forced young cancer patients to take their treatments outdoors, drew an international outcry.

The 10-storey hospital, Ukraine's largest medical facility for children, was caring for some 670 patients at the time of the attack. The missile hit a two-storey wing of the hospital.

$2.5 million in damage

"The building where we conducted dialysis for children with kidney failure or acute intoxication is ruined entirely," he told reporters, estimating the overall damage to the hospital at $2.5 million.

Danielle Bell, the head of a UN team tracking human rights violations in Ukraine, said at least two persons were killed at the hospital and some 50 people were injured, including seven children. The casualty figure would have been much higher if patients had not been taken to a bunker when air raid sirens first sounded, she added.

Mr. Zhovnir said one of the two killed at the hospital was a woman doctor who took children to the shelter and then went back to check nobody had been left behind

Authorities were working to restore the hospital's power and water supply as Kyiv city administrators declared on Tuesday an official day of mourning. Entertainment events were prohibited and flags were lowered in the capital.

Taliban may give more power to morality police

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

The Taliban government's morality police will play an increasing role in enforcing religious law in Afghanistan, according to a UN report published on Tuesday that accused them of creating a "climate of fear".

The report from the UN assistance mission in Afghanistan said the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice "had negative impacts on the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms... with a discriminatory and disproportionate impact on women".

But the report also carried a response from Taliban authorities, who said the Vice Ministry had a bigger role to play.

Cruel games: A Taliban security personnel holds his gun as he rides a zipline near the Qargha lake on the outskirts of Kabul. AFP

The Ministry implements an austere vision of Islam, which has increasingly dominated Afghanistan since the 2021 Taliban takeover.

The UN report said there was "a climate of fear and intimidation" owing to the Ministry's invasion of Afghans' private lives, ambiguity over its legal powers, and the "disproportionality of punishments".

However, in their written response Taliban authorities said the Vice Ministry is "dedicated to promoting benefits and averting harm in all spheres of peoples' lives".

"Its official documents, as previously stated, draw from Sharia and Islamic law, and as a result, its role is growing as required by the situation."

China hits back at NATO's 'attacks' ahead of summit

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China lashed out at NATO's "smears and attacks" on Tuesday after the defence alliance's chief accused it of supporting Russia's war in Ukraine on the eve of a summit in Washington.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg told a news conference ahead of the 75th anniversary summit that the inclusion of the leaders of Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea at the summit "demonstrates that our security is not regional, our security is global".

"And that's demonstrated in the war in Ukraine where Iran, North Korea, China are supporting Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine," Mr. Stoltenberg said.

"NATO's so-called security is at the expense of other countries' security and its actions have brought extremely high security risks to the world and the region," Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian told a news conference in Beijing.

French parties scramble to gather allies after polls return inconclusive results

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

French parties sought to gather allies on Tuesday, with the government adrift following an election in which no one political force claimed a clear majority.

Having defied expectations to top the polls, new MPs from the left-wing New Popular Front (NFP) alliance began showing up in parliament ahead of a first session on July 18.

But the coalition of Greens, Socialists, Communists and the hard-left France Unbowed (LFI) is still debating over who to put forward as a potential Prime Minister and whether it could be open to working in a broader coalition.

Macron's camp is eyeing centre-left Socialists and Republicans as possible allies

Combined, the left-leaning parties hold 193 of 577 seats in the National Assembly and are well short of the 289-seat threshold for a majority. Nevertheless, members plan to name a potential Prime Minister "by the end of the week," leading LFI figure Mathilde Panot said.

Mr. Macron's camp came second in Sunday's vote, taking 164 seats after voters came together to block the far-right National Rally (RN) from power.

In a sign that some divisions remain, the left parties' MPs planned to enter parliament at different times throughout the day.

The Socialists are still hoping to glean a few more members for their group to outweigh LFI and have a greater say over the alliance's direction.

Meanwhile, members of Mr. Macron's camp were eyeing both the centre-left Socialists and conservative Republicans as possible allies.

"The centrist bloc is ready to talk to all the members of the republican spectrum," Stephane Sejourne, head of Macron's Renaissance party said, while naming red lines including that coalition members must support the EU and Ukraine and maintain business-friendly policies. These requirements, he warned, "necessarily exclude LFI" and its caustic founder Jean-Luc Melenchon.

Israel strikes fourth Gaza school in four days, killing 10

Agence France-Presse
GAZA STRIP

A Gaza hospital source said at least 10 people were killed and dozens wounded on Tuesday in a strike on a school turned shelter for displaced Palestinians, the fourth such attack in as many days.

The strike hit the gate at the Al-Awda school in Abasan, near the southern city of Khan Younis, said the source at Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis where victims were taken.

There was no immediate comment from Israel, which has acknowledged carrying out three other strikes since Saturday on Gaza schools used as displacement shelters.

At least 20 people were killed in these attacks, according to officials in the Hamas-run territory.

Israel said all three strikes targeted militants hiding in the schools.

On Saturday, an Israeli strike hit the UN-run Al-Jawni school in Nuseirat, central Gaza, killing 16 people, according to the territory's Health Ministry.

Sport

Stumbling England and Netherlands get a shot at redemption

Agence France-Presse
DORTMUND

England has a first ever major tournament final on foreign soil in its sights in Wednesday's Euro 2024 semifinal when it faces a Netherlands side hitting its stride.

The Three Lions are aiming to match their run to the Euro 2020 final, when they lost in heartbreaking fashion on penalties to Italy at Wembley. England's only ever major tournament triumph also came on home soil at the 1966 World Cup.

Gareth Southgate's men are out to end 58 years of hurt and have shown remarkable resilience, if not the quality expected of one of the pre-tournament favourites, in Germany.

Individual moments of brilliance from Jude Bellingham and Bukayo Saka has kept England alive with late equalisers before beating Slovakia in extra-time and Switzerland on penalties.

Those were flickers of the individual talent at Southgate's disposal and the England boss has defiantly defended his record, even though his side had failed to hit top gear at the tournament so far.

"We're in a third semifinal in four tournaments, and I think we continue to give people fantastic memories. So we'll keep grinding, we'll keep fighting, and we'll keep enjoying this journey."

A change of formation for the 1-1 draw against Switzerland did result in a marginally improved display from the dramatic win over a Slovakia side ranked 45th in the world.

Southgate is expected to stick by that 3-4-2-1 system with Marc Guehi returning from suspension to replace Ezri Konsa.

The England boss has bristled at suggestions his side ended up on the kind side of the draw, away from France, Spain, Germany and Portugal.

Yet, the Dutch can count themselves even more fortunate for their path to the final after finishing third in Group D behind France and Austria. Ronald Koeman's men produced their best display of the tournament in sweeping aside Romania 3-0 in the last 16 before battling back from a goal down to beat Turkey 2-1 in front of a hostile crowd in Berlin.

Coming up against a raft of Premier League stars will hold little fear for the Netherlands, which boasts its own impressive crop of talent plying its trade in England's top flight.

Liverpool's Cody Gakpo has arguably been the form attacker at the tournament and is the only player to have scored three goals still alive in the competition.

The Dutch have had to wait 36 years since their own sole major tournament triumph, the last time the Euros were held in Germany. That was also the only time they made a European Championship final.

But they will fancy their chances of being in Berlin on Sunday unless England suddenly click into gear.

Messi will start in the semifinal, says Scaloni

COPA AMERICA

Reuters
NEW YORK

Argentina captain Lionel Messi will be fit to play in Tuesday's Copa America semifinal against Canada in New Jersey, coach Lionel Scaloni said, despite the forward's injury concerns.

Messi returned to action on Thursday in Argentina's quarterfinal win against Ecuador after missing the final group-stage match due to injury.

"Leo (Messi) is fine, he finished well, so he will be part of the match, we are calm," Scaloni told a press conference ahead of the semifinal clash at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. "He is essential for us."

Messi. AFP

Argentina and Canada will meet for the second time in the tournament after the opening match in Group A, where the defending champions beat the CONCACAF side 2-0.

VENTING IT

Djokovic launches a tirade against the fans for their behaviour

REUTERS

Novak Djokovic accused Wimbledon fans of "disrespect" on Monday. "I have been on the tour for more than 20 years. I know the tricks. I focus on the respectful people that pay for the ticket, and love tennis and appreciate the players. I played in much more hostile environments, trust me, you guys can't touch me."

NEW HIGH

Wimbledon 2024 breaks record for most five-setters at a Slam

X@Wimbledon

The Sinner-Medvedev match was the 36th five-setter at Wimbledon this year, breaking the record for most five-setters (35: 1983 US Open, 2024 Australian Open) at a single Grand Slam in the Open era. The previous record for five-setters at Wimbledon was 35 when Fritz defeated Zverev in a contest that went the distance on Monday.

RECOGNITION

Bumrah and Smriti named ICC's POTM for June

K.R. DEEPAK & R. RAGU

Jasprit Bumrah added another feather to his hat when he was on Tuesday named the 'ICC Men's Player of the Month for June'. It was double delight for India as women's team vice-captain Smriti Mandhana was also named the 'Women's Player of the Month'. Smriti won her first ICC Women's Player of the Month.

CAREER-BEST

An outing to remember for pacer Pooja against South Africa

R. RAGU

Pooja Vastrakar had an outing to remember against South Africa in the third T20I in Chennai. The pacer's career-best figures (four for 13) helped the host bowl out South Africa for just 84. Pooja is the first Indian to take four wickets against South Africa in this format. She also took her 50th T20I wicket when she dismissed Marizanne Kapp.

Medvedev knocks out Sinner in drama-filled five-set thriller

The Russian, who had blown a two-sets-to-love lead in the 2024 Australian Open final, exacts revenge; Alcaraz waits next

WIMBLEDON

N. Sudarshan
LONDON

Daniil Medvedev and Jannik Sinner have been each other's bogeymen. Until September 2023, Medvedev had won all six of their encounters only for Sinner to reverse the tide in the next five.

The acme was the 2024 Australian Open final where the Russian, for the second time in Melbourne, cracked under the weight of history to blow a two-sets-to-love lead.

On Tuesday, Medvedev nearly faltered again before composing himself to finish on the right side of a capricious five-setter 6-7 (7), 6-4, 7-6(4), 2-6, 6-3 and enter his second successive Wimbledon semifinal.

Medvedev will take on defending champion Carlos Alcaraz, who beat American Tommy Paul 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2. The 10th meeting between Sinner and Alcaraz, widely acknowledged as this generation's defining rivalry, will have to wait.

"If you have to beat Jannik, it has to be a tough match," Medvedev said after the marathon. "He is not anymore a guy who can be beaten easily. I played at a high level, great points, and I am happy."

Big hitters both, their primary strategy was to win free points off their serves. In this, Sinner shaded Medvedev early on. In the opening set, the Italian won 23 of the 25 points when he landed his first serve, and put most balls back on the return.

Spring in the step: Medvedev seemed to find fresh legs whenever he needed them. REUTERS

Highlights reel

The top seed also had more shots for the highlights reel, with his whipped forehand and the half-knelt backhand eliciting from the audience many a gasp and whoop.

But Medvedev, with his noodle-strap body and shovelling racquet technique, stayed within touching distance, bringing to the fore his deceptively efficient shot-making. He was solid from the backcourt and lethal when he advanced, winning seven out of eight net-points.

In the tie-break, Sinner blinked first, serving a double fault at 5-5. But having won the last eight he had played, he knew his way out and duly claimed the set.

However, having drawn first blood, Sinner relaxed for a fleeting moment and Medvedev pounced, breaking him in the third game of the second. The 28-year-old took it 6-4 and broke Sinner again in the third game of the third.

Both times Sinner lost serve, it was his forehand that proved his undoing, a stroke that also wobbled during his fourth-round win over Ben Shelton.

The World No. 1 seemed physically compromised too as he had his temperature checked and was ushered off the court for a time-out.

But he came back rejuvenated, breaking back in the 10th game of the third set and holding to 6-5. On the subsequent Medvedev serve, he earned two set-points, but an ace and a backhand unforced error negated both.

Yet, Sinner very much seemed like he was on the ascendency and tie-break was his safe space. However, his forehand broke down again and he lost four of the seven points from that wing.

In the fourth set, though, Sinner came back guns blazing, levelling the match with ease. But Medvedev didn't leave his best tennis buried in the drawer for too long. At 2-1 in the fifth, he pressured the Sinner serve with two winners straight up.

And Sinner succumbed by serving a double-fault and following it up with a forehand error. Medvedev had one foot in the semifinal. And soon he dragged the whole of his body over the line.

THE RESULTS

Tuesday: Quarterfinals:
Women: Vekic (Cro) bt Sun (NZL) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1; 7-Paolini (Ita) bt 19-Navarro (USA) 6-2, 6-1.
Men: 5-Medvedev (Rus) bt 1-Sinner (Ita) 6-7(7), 6-4, 7-6(4), 2-6, 6-3; 3-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 12-Paul (USA) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Monday: Fourth round:
2-Djokovic (SRB) bt 15-Rune (Den) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

Gambhir takes over from Dravid as India's head coach

CRICKET

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Gautam Gambhir, the former India opening batter, has been appointed Rahul Dravid's successor as the India men's cricket team's head coach. Gambhir in his first international coaching assignment has been handed a long rope, having been handed charge till the end of 2027.

While BCCI secretary Jay Shah made Gambhir's appointment public on his personal social media handle on Tuesday, BCCI chief Roger Binny was confident Gambhir would carry on the Indian team's legacy forward.

"His experience, dedication, and vision for the game make him the ideal candidate to guide our team forward. We are confident that under his leadership, Team India will continue to excel and make the nation proud," Binny said in a BCCI statement.

Ever since Dravid decided not to continue in his role after the T20 World Cup, Gambhir was touted to be the front runner for the post soon after he returned to Kolkata Knight Riders as its mentor for IPL 2024. Having stepping down as Member of Parliament, Gambhir and former India women's head coach W.V. Raman were interviewed by the Cricket Advisory Committee headed by Ashok Malhotra on June 19.

The Hindu understands that the CAC interview was a mere formality with Gambhir having been promised the top job by the BCCI hierarchy even before the applications were invited in May.

Gambhir's first assignment will be India's limited-overs tour to Sri Lanka, starting in the end of July. It will be interesting to see how he gels with the squad. Murmurs of a group of senior cricketers being uncomfortable with his appointment had been doing the rounds during the triumphant T20 World Cup campaign.

Besides earning the confidence of the dressing room, Gambhir – having only been involved in guiding IPL outfits – will have a tumultuous task of succeeding across formats and planning for the future.

The preparations for the T20 World Cup title defence in 2026 will take a back seat with India set to play 10 Tests in the next six months before heading for the 2025 Champions Trophy.

> India is my identity and serving my country has been the greatest privilege of my life. I'm honoured to be back., albeit wearing a different hat. The Men in Blue shoulder the dreams of 1.4 billion Indians and I will do everything in my power to make these dreams come true!
>
> **GAUTAM GAMBHIR (ON X)**

Pooja's heroics help India share the T20I series with South Africa

SA IN INDIA

Lavanya L
CHENNAI

A dominant show on the field helped India level the three-match T20I series against South Africa 1-1 with a 10-wicket win in the final fixture here on Tuesday.

Course correction with the ball – better line and length and bowling to the field – helped the host dismiss South Africa for a paltry 84 after opting to field in overcast conditions. A raucous crowd helped make the Chepauk Stadium a claustrophobic cauldron for the women in yellow and green.

Laura Wolvaardt and Tazmin Brits began fluently, scoring 17 runs off the first two overs. Arundhati Reddy came in with some disciplined swing bowling, conceding just two runs in her first over.

Wolvaardt was the first to fall, miscuing a tossed up delivery to Arundhati at mid-off. Marizanne Kapp began with two boundaries but fell to Pooja Vastrakar who gnawed at the Proteas line-up with tighter lines and use of the wobble seam.

Radha Yadav's three-run over in the seventh helped unsettle Brits, who fell to Deepti Sharma, caught brilliantly at mid-off by Harmanpreet Kaur. The pressure enveloped Anneke Bosch and Chloe Tryon, with the former trapped leg-before by Pooja in the 11th over. The pacer then ripped through Nadine de Klerk's stumps to leave the Proteas reeling at 61 for five.

The South African innings died a long-drawn painful death, the last five wickets falling for just 23 runs in 7.1 overs.

India cantered to victory, taking 11 overs to seal the game. With nearly 15,000 fans on their feet chanting for a six, Smriti promptly obliged with a maximum over deep mid-wicket to bring up her 24th T20I fifty and the victory.

Tight spell: Pooja's sensational bowling troubled the South African batters. R. RAGU

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA
Laura Wolvaardt c Arundhati b Shreyanka 9 *(9b, 2x4)*, Tazmin Brits c Harmanpreet b Deepti 20 *(23b, 3x4)*, Marizanne Kapp c Shafali b Pooja 10 *(8b, 2x4)*, Anneke Bosch lbw b Pooja 17 *(14b, 2x4)*, Chloe Tryon c Radha b Arundhati 9 *(16b)*, Nadine de Klerk b Pooja 0 *(3b)*, Annerie Dercksen lbw b Radha 2 *(7b)*, Sinalo Jafta c Arundhati b Radha 8 *(10b)*, Eliz-Mari Marx c Uma b Pooja 7 *(8b, 1x4)*, Nonkululeko Mlaba c Sajana b Radha 0 *(2b)*, Ayabonga Khaka (not out) 0 *(3b)*; Extras (w-2): 2; Total (in 17.1 overs): 84.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-19 (Wolvaardt, 3.2 overs), 2-30 (Kapp, 4.6), 3-45 (Brits, 7.4), 4-61 (Bosch, 10.2), 5-61 (de Klerk, 10.5), 6-65 (Dercksen, 12.4), 7-75 (Tryon, 14.3), 8-84 (Jafta, 16.1), 9-84 (Mlaba, 16.3).

INDIA BOWLING
Pooja 3.1-0-13-4, Sajana 1-0-11-0, Arundhati 3-0-14-1, Shreyanka 3-0-19-1, Radha 3-1-6-3, Deepti 4-0-21-1.

INDIA
Shafali Verma (not out) 27 *(25b, 3x4)*, Smriti Mandhana (not out) 54 *(40b, 8x4, 2x6)*; Extras (lb-4, w-3): 7; Total (for no loss in 10.5 overs): 88.

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Khaka 2-0-20-0, Kapp 2-0-3-0, Tryon 2-0-8-0, Marx 1-0-11-0, Mlaba 2-0-20-0, de Klerk 1.5-0-22-0.

Toss: India; **PoM & PoS:** Pooja.
India won by 10 wickets with 55 balls remaining to share the honours 1-1 in three-match series.

The legend who tamed speedsters moves on to 75

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
CHENNAI

For a man, who loved his centuries, Wednesday will usher in a 75. Sunil Gavaskar, one of cricket's greatest batters, would rather take it one day at a time, just like he did while countering speed merchants and wily spinners, dealing with them one delivery at a time.

The former India captain, the first man to scale 'Mount 10000' in Tests, will clock 75 summers and remains connected to the willow-game. This is an umbilical cord he retains, first as a player till he bowed out in 1987, and now as a broadcaster.

Recency bias

Many in the younger generation, who have only seen him as a commentator, may tend to associate him entirely with that role. A reality that even Richie Benaud had to deal with. May be recency bias is at play or in these days of abbreviated words, Instagram reels and two-minute noodles, memory is short.

Steely resolve: Gavaskar, who turns 75 on Wednesday, batted against some great fast bowlers without a helmet. GETTY IMAGES

But for those who have seen him bat, Gavaskar was about eternity at the crease. In this era of flash-and-dash right from the openers through the middle-order to the finishers, he was that old-fashioned fixed deposit in a reputed bank.

Money was safe and hope was forever. When he batted with fellow openers like the late Chetan Chauhan, Anshuman Gaekwad or K. Srikkanth, and middle-order stalwarts like G.R. Viswanath, Dilip Vengsarkar and Mohinder Amarnath, India knew it had a chance, especially with all-rounder Kapil Dev stepping in too.

A straight bat and a steely resolve was second nature to Gavaskar. One of the few along with the great Viv Richards to bat without a helmet, the opener did experiment with a skull-cap briefly towards the twilight of his career. However, the recurrent image about him is the floppy hat and a bat seemingly broad enough to guard a fortress!

The numbers were staggering at the time when he retired. 10,122 Test runs and 34 hundreds. A yield of 3092 in ODIs and a lone ton. And an overall First Class accumulation of 25,834. The Test statistic places Gavaskar in the 13th spot while fellow Mumbaikar Sachin Tendulkar occupies the throne.

When the mood took over, Gavaskar could take apart the most dangerous attacks. He did it once in Delhi to equal the then world record of 29 Test centuries held by Sir Don Bradman.

This was 1983 and he was hooking Malcolm Marshall and when he got his ton, the star had no clue until non-striker Vengsarkar said: "Bleddy hell, you did it."

Fountain of anecdotes

Now busy as a commentator, Gavaskar is often the last word on batsmanship. Off the field, he is a fountain of anecdotes, has an impish sense of humour, does a lot for charity, especially for ageing sportspersons, and tends to get reverential while talking about Prakash Padukone because badminton is a favourite sport. Happy birthday Master, and may the years ahead be filled with more cricketing magic.

INBRIEF

Philipsen edges Girmay in Stage 10; Pogacar still ahead

Belgian Jasper Philipsen won a mass sprint ahead of Eritrean Biniam Girmay on Stage 10 of the Tour de France at Saint-Amand-Montrond on Tuesday after a flat 187.3km ride south from Orleans. Before Wednesday's potentially explosive stage, man-to-beat Tadej Pogacar protected his 33 seconds overall lead over Remco Evenepoel, with defending champion Jonas Vingegaard at 1min 15sec in third.

India goes down to Myanmar in women's football friendly

India conceded a late goal to suffer a 2-1 defeat at the hands of Myanmar and continued its winless run against the neighbour in a women's football friendly at Yangon on Tuesday. Myanmar scored both goals from set pieces with Win Theingi Tun, who plays for Odisha FC, giving the team the lead in the 14th minute. Although Pyari Xaxa equalised with an opportunistic tap-in in the 58th minute, San Thaw Thaw converted May Thet Mon Myint's free-kick in the 74th minute to win the game for Myanmar. This was India's fifth defeat to Myanmar in six matches. India will play the second friendly on Friday.

Bellamy appointed Wales football coach

Craig Bellamy has been appointed as the new head coach of the Wales national football team on a contract until 2028, Football Association of Wales (FAW) announced on Tuesday. Bellamy has replaced Rob Page, who was sacked following Wales's failure to qualify for Euro 2024. The 44-year-old former Liverpool, Newcastle and Wales striker leaves Burnley, where he was assistant to former manager Vincent Kompany last season in the Premier League.

Dortmund signs Germany defender Waldemar Anton

Champions League runner-up Borussia Dortmund made Germany defender Waldemar Anton its first signing of the off-season on Monday, leaving Stuttgart needing a new captain for its return to top-level European competition next season. Anton played all but one Bundesliga game for Stuttgart last season as it finished second in the league, behind Leverkusen. That helped earn him a call-up to Germany's squad for Euro 2024, where he played two games off the bench in the team's run to the quarterfinals.

Sumit Nagal advances in Braunschweig Challenger

Second seed Sumit Nagal warmed up with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Felipe Alves of Brazil in the first round of the €148,625 Challenger tennis tournament on clay at Braunschweig, Germany, on Tuesday. In the pre-quarterfinals, Nagal will play Pedro Cachin of Argentina.

Other results: $15,000 ITF, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand: Men's doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Rishi Reddy & Dhakshineswar Suresh bt Ajeet Rai & James Watt (NZ) 6-4, 6-4; **Women (first round):** Monique Barry (Nzl) bt Humera Baharmus 6-1, 6-0; **Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Patcharin Cheapchandej & Punnin Kovapitukted (Tha) bt Ashmitha Easwaramurthi & Pooja Ingale 6-2, 6-3; Amittalai Prasutnawin & Yosita Sriporn (Tha) bt Laalitya Kalluri & Sonal Patil 7-5, 6-7(3), [10-8]; Yuka Hosoki & Rinon Okuwaki (Jpn) bt Priyanshi Bhandari & Abhilasha Bista (Nep) 6-2, 6-2.
€115,000 WTA, Bastad, Sweden: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Linea Bajraliu & Nellie Wallberg (Swe) bt Tamara Korpatsch (Ger) & Prarthana Thombare 6-1, 6-4.
$40,000 ITF women, Corroios-Seixal, Portugal: Qualifying singles (second and final round): Riya Bhatia bt Ekterina Yashina 6-3, 7-6(7); **First round:** Riya bt Polina Isakova (Ukr) 6-2, 6-0.

LIVE TELECAST

Wimbledon: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m.
England vs West Indies: 1st Test, day 1, Sony LIV, 3.30 p.m.
Zimbabwe vs India: 3rd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30 p.m.
Cycling: Tour de France, Eurosport (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
Football: Euro 2024, Sony Sports Ten 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Sun lights up Wimbledon with a dazzling display

The 23-year-old Kiwi recorded wins over 2024 Australian Open Slam finalist Qinwen and former US Open champion Raducanu before exiting in the quarterfinals

TENNIS

N. Sudarshan
LONDON

Like first-time novelists desperate for the world to read them, Wimbledon 2024 has seen a handful of players eager to make a mark. And it turns out they have terrific stories to tell.

One of them was Frenchman Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard, a lucky loser in the qualifying who went all the way up to fourth round. Another was Lulu Sun, the 23-year old qualifier from New Zealand, who lost in the women's quarterfinals to Donna Vekic 7-5, 4-6, 1-6 on Tuesday. If she had won, she could have matched Alexandra Stevenson's feat from 1999 of being the only qualifier to reach the women's singles semifinal at Wimbledon.

Great run: Sun's splendid show could see her rankings move closer to 50. GETTY IMAGES

Golden run

Regardless, Sun will consider hers a golden run as she recorded victories over 2024 Australian Open Slam finalist Qinwen Zheng (first round) and 2021 US Open champion Emma Raducanu (fourth round).

Prior to this, she had never won a match at the Majors, having made her main draw debut only this year, in Melbourne.

But having entered Wimbledon as the World No.123, she will exit with a number close to 50, more than £350,000 in her kitty and the achievement of being the first from her country to reach the last eight at SW19 since Chris Lewis was runner-up to John McEnroe in 1983.

Interestingly, Sun could have represented nearly half-a-dozen countries, a global citizen in a truly global game. She has a Chinese mother, Croatian father, was born in New Zealand, raised in Switzerland and went to college at the University of Texas (USA). She carries in her heart a part of each country whenever she travels.

"It wasn't an easy decision [to choose New Zealand] because it never is when you have to choose between two things," she said after beating Raducanu.

"Even now, I'm still grateful for everything that Swiss tennis has done in my junior career. At the same time I'm also grateful for Tennis New Zealand for their support.

"All the countries that I have been in and have grown up or have a link to, they will always be within me. I don't think that's ever going to leave."

Tough call: It will be an interesting choice between Jaiswal's flamboyance and Abhishek's aggression. K.R. DEEPAK

Gill's opening partner in focus in third T20I

INDIA IN ZIMBABWE

Press Trust of India
HARARE

India will find it tough to choose between Yashasvi Jaiswal's seemingly effortless flamboyance and Abhishek Sharma's uber-cool aggression at the top when it rejig its combination in the third T20I against Zimbabwe here on Wednesday.

The arrival of Jaiswal, Sanju Samson and Shivam Dube gives the Indian team a formidable look in the most important game of the series as the visitor look to press home the advantage after the booster shot of a series-levelling 100-run victory in the second match.

Jaiswal does have the first claim to be skipper Shubman Gill's opening partner by virtue of being the reserve opener of the first-choice T20 team.

Gill is unlikely to let that happen. It could well be a case of one of the two southpaws batting at one drop. Samson might come in at No.5, while Ruturaj Gaikwad will probably drop to No.4.

As far as the changes in the playing eleven are concerned, Jaiswal is likely to replace Sai Sudharsan, who was selected only for the first two games.

The teams: **(from)**:
India: Shubman Gill (Capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Abhishek Sharma, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson (wk), Shivam Dube, Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel, Khaleel Ahmed and Tushar Deshpande.
Zimbabwe: Sikandar Raza (Capt.), Faraz Akram, Brian Bennett, Johnathan Campbell, Tendai Chatara, Luke Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Wellington Masakadza, Brandon Mavuta, Blessing Muzarabani, Dion Myers, Antum Naqvi, Richard Ngarava and Milton Shumba.
Match Starts at 4:30 p.m. IST.

It will be tough to fill Kohli's shoes: Gaikwad

Press Trust of India
HARARE

India batter Ruturaj Gaikwad knows well that it will be "tough" and "hard" to replace retired Virat Kohli at number three spot in T20Is and said he is just focusing on making valuable contributions with the bat in whatever position the team leadership deems fit.

"This is a big topic and I think it's not the right point to think about it. To even compare with him (Kohli) or try to fill in his shoes is relatively very tough and very hard," said Gaikwad.

"As I had said in the IPL as well, it is difficult to fill my best shoes as well. Definitely, you want to start your career, you want to start the way you want, you want to play your own game. So that's the priority right now.

Gaikwad. AFP

"Focus on one game, focus on how you can contribute towards the team in whichever position you play and make sure you are on the winning side more often than not."

"No, wherever the team wants, I will bat there. There is no problem."

Lord's braces to bid adieu to one of England's greatest

WI IN ENGLAND

Associated Press
LONDON

It doesn't matter if James Anderson takes a bunch of West Indies wickets for England in the first Test at Lord's from Wednesday.

The series opener will be Anderson's 188th and last Test and he will transition into England's fast-bowling mentor.

His 21-year Test career comes full circle at Lord's, where he made his debut in 2003 against Zimbabwe.

Seamer Gus Atkinson and wicketkeeper Jamie Smith have been handed debuts. Chris Woakes returns for his first Test since he was the player of the series in last year's Ashes.

Special moments: Stokes and his pace spearhead Anderson after a team photo-shoot at Lord's. GETTY IMAGES

Stokes was back as an all-rounder, allowing for off-spinner Shoaib Bashir to make his home debut.

Jason Holder was recalled to the squad along with fast bowler Jayden Seales. St. Kitts and Nevis opening batter Mikyle Louis and fast bowler Jeremiah Louis are the uncapped players in the 15-man squad. Louis replaced an injured Kemar Roach.

Anderson said he was trying hard not to think of his pending forced retirement. "The big thing for me this week is wanting to play well, bowl well and get a win," he said. "I'm sure the emotions during the week will change, but right now that's what I'm trying to focus on to stop myself crying."

The teams (from): England: Ben Stokes (Capt.), Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Jamie Smith, Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Shoaib Bashir and James Anderson.

West Indies: Kraigg Brathwaite (Capt.), Alick Athanaze, Joshua Da Silva, Jason Holder, Kavem Hodge, Tevin Imlach, Alzarri Joseph, Shamar Joseph, Mikyle Louis, Zachary McCaskie, Kirk McKenzie, Gudakesh Motie, Jayden Seales, Kevin Sinclair and Jeremiah Louis.

James Anderson's farewell, and the lessons for India

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

A modern great, James Anderson plays his 188th and final Test at Lord's from today. Behind that simple statement lies a philosophy reflecting a cultural divide between England and India. It also throws light on such hazy but important qualities as selfishness and sacrifice in sport. Asked by a reporter if he would like to carry on, Anderson said, "I've not really got a choice." The farewell comes 22 years after his international debut.

Last year, Anderson was told this would be his final summer of cricket. He turns 42 later in the month, and some of the reluctance you can read above may be put down to his competitive nature and refusal to give up that is now part of his mental make-up and have been key elements in his success. It is difficult to switch off. He is still bowling well, as he showed with seven for 35 for Lancashire against Nottinghamshire last week. In his previous Test, in Dharamsala, he became the first seamer to take 700 wickets.

All sporting goodbyes are laced with high emotion from players and fans alike. Tears are shed, heroics recalled, and fans recollect the many times their own lives have been bookmarked by a hero's performance. Where were you when Sachin Tendulkar played his final Test?

In India, favourites are generally allowed to choose the date of their departure. Seldom do selectors go up to a top player and say, "Listen, no more extensions after this series, we have to build a team for the future." Greats have been carried by the team because there's a landmark on the horizon or because they want to quit on their home ground. Thus was Kapil Dev allowed to carry on till he had overtaken Richard Hadlee's then record of 431 Test wickets.

Tendulkar himself was allowed to play on till his 200th Test in Mumbai. In India such concessions are seen as the players' due (although Virender Sehwag wasn't given such an option). In some ways, Indian fans live their lives through and get their self-image from a Tendulkar, and to see him play and score is a great substitute for the fans not doing nearly as well in life. After all, only a minuscule percentage can claim to be the best at what they do; we identify easily with those who can make such a claim. Their success becomes ours.

It often means that sometimes an individual performance is seen as more important than its impact. When Tendulkar made his long-awaited 100th century, against Bangladesh in an ODI, India lost the match. It was one of his slowest centuries, but it didn't matter. Individual selfishness had merged with a nation's.

Selfish element

For, of course selfishness is an important element of greatness in sport, even if better understood in individual sport.

A top player consciously develops his selfish side in the team interest. Success at the highest level requires single-minded focus, the ability to do the job to the exclusion of everything else, and understanding one's own importance to the team. This monk-like approach focuses on the self and on increasing the value of the self in the team context.

In the early years, such selfishness serves the team; later it serves the individual. Selfishness is one of the reasons for success; it is not something that can be turned on and off.

Recent research by sports scientists at Nottingham Trent University (NTU) has found that being self-centred, ruthless and manipulative helps elite athletes achieve glory. Things like selfishness that may be considered evil in social settings are important in sporting performance. Most elite sportsmen know this instinctively. They know they cannot rise to the top without putting themselves first, working on their game obsessively. For the team to do well, they have to do well.

There is support in England for Anderson to continue playing till he decides it is over. This is one occasion when what is good for the individual is not necessarily good for the team. Asking a long-serving servant of the game to pack up and leave might appear callous, but there is no disrespect here.

Great as the individual's past was, it is the team's future that needs to be considered.